DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd*).

DEMAND III—LAND REVENUE—RS. 8·24 LAKHS.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III—Land Revenue.

I A. LAND REVENUE AND INCOME TAX COMMISSIONER.

Motions 127 to 129.

The following motion was not moved: —

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:

127. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,009 for establishment by Rs. 100.

The following motion was deemed not to have been moved as the member was absent: —

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

128. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 18,372 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Rs. 10.

The following motion was not moved:—

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI:

129. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 18,372 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Rs. 100.

I B. DIVISION CUTCHERRIES.

Motions 130 to 132.

The following motions were not moved:—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:

130. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 56,028 under establishment by Rs. 720.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:

131. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 80,670 for establishment by Rs. 100.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:

132. To omit the allotment of Rs. 270 for hot weather charges.

Motion 133.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

133. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 67,880 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

My object in tabling this motion is to draw the attention of the Government to the difficulties the people are put to on account of the location of the Kottayam Division Cutcherry in the Palace premises. The tours of Royal personages and of distinguished men connected with the Palace have been more frequent and, when they come there is dislocation of work and people who are not caste Hindus find it difficult to transact business. Further, the court of the First Class Magistrate where all sorts of people have to go daily is also located in the premises. In view of the difficulties and inconveniences experienced by non-caste Hindus, I request the Government to locate the Division Cutcherry and other adjoining courts in a more convenient place where every one can go.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I would point out to the member that the matter is already under correspondence and a site has been selected by the Dewan Peishkar and I believe the Dewan also inspected the place and proposals

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have been made to push on with the new building for the Dewan Peishkar's and the Assistant's offices as soon as possible. I may assure the member that every step will be taken to push on with the matter

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery cum Peermade*) : May I know where the newly selected site is ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It is near the District Court.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*) : In view of the explanation offered by Mr. Robinson, I withdraw my motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 134.

The following motion was not moved :—

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI :

134. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 76,880 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

I C. TALUK CUTCHERRIES.

Motions 135 to 140.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

135. To omit the allotment of Rs. 440 for one additional clerk and one copyist.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

136. To reduce the allotment of Rs 1,59,347 for establishment by Rs. 100.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI :

137. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,200 for improvement of markets by Rs 100.

The following motion was deemed not to have been moved as the member was absent :—

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI :

138. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,200 for improvement of markets by Rs. 100.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

139. To omit the allotment of Rs. 300 for fees to Vakils.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

140. To omit the allotment of Rs. 300 for fees to Vakils

Motion 141.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Sir, I rise to move the following motion :—

141. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,43,180 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

My object in moving this motion is to point out to the Government the absence of Tahsildars from the Catholic, Mahomedan, Ezhava and other unrepresented communities. There are altogether 32 Tahsildars and not a single one is taken from the Catholics and the Mahomedans. There is an acting Ezhava Tahsildar appointed in 1096. The principle of communal representation is accepted by the Government and they have stated that, consistently with efficiency, qualification, etc., they

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[Mr. A. J. John.]

have been giving special consideration to applicants from communities insufficiently represented in service and they have issued orders to this effect to the departmental heads also. Although the principle has been accepted by the Government, in theory, very little is being done in practice.

The flexible nature of the order accepted and issued by the Government and the unsympathetic attitude adopted by many of the departmental heads are the primary causes of this situation. First of all, the word "efficiency" is so flexible that the authorities can interpret that word in such a way as will suit their own choice. I do not think it possible to see whether a particular applicant is efficient for the post before he is appointed; and once the appointment is made, whether he is efficient or not, he will continue in the service till he is 55. There is the word "etc" and I cannot understand what is meant by it. So it is the duty of the Government to make definite rules and insist upon their officers strictly to adhere to them. The unrepresented communities do not demand that anybody from among themselves should be appointed. They want only those persons who have got the necessary qualifications to be appointed. Of the 32 Tahsildars, 16 are Nairs, 11 Brahmins, 4 non-Catholic Christians and 1 Ezhava. From the Catholic community, which forms about a sixth of the total population of the State, there is not a single Tahsildar.

It is an open secret that there exist communal dissensions in the State and the chief cause of this is the unequal and unjustifiable distribution of appointments. No purpose will be served by hiding the realities. Under these circumstances, I press on the attention of the Government that applications for the Tahsildar's post from members of unrepresented communities be given preference to those from other communities provided the applicants from the former communities possess the minimum qualification prescribed. With these observations, I move my motion.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, the motion of the member is an interesting one and I am prepared to support it, but not if injustice will be done to others. It has been the policy of the Government, wherever possible, to recruit Tahsildars from men who have gained experience in the working of the department and passed departmental tests. The recruitment of Tahsildars is made generally from the cadre of Magistrates. With the separation of the Land Revenue Department from Devaswoms which was effected from the 1st of Chingam 1098, endeavour is being made to recruit non-caste Hindus in the department by giving them additional appointments. The question of caste-war representation cannot be allowed all on a sudden in the case of promotions and, if it is done, I am sure it will cause heartburning to many persons who are on the verge of being promoted as Tahsildars both in point of seniority and efficiency. There is a proverb that "slow and steady wins the race". It is better

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that we achieve the above gradually and any sudden innovation or change of policy in the existing one, I think, will be fraught with evil consequences. I know during the time of Mr. Raghaviah we went through the *Civil List* with a view to find men of different communities who may be appointed as Magistrates and Tahsildars. As a matter of fact, we could not find any such person among the Inspectors of the Excise Department or any other department. But since the separation of Devaswoms from the Land Revenue Department it will be seen that the Government have appointed one Christian as Dewan Peishkar, namely, Mr. Mathen. Then as regards the appointment of Division Assistants, they appointed Mr. Kuriyan and Mr. Ittiyara as Division Assistants. Then coming to the appointment of Tahsildars, the House will find that the Government appointed Mr. Tarian, Mr. Abraham, Mr. Thomas Mr. Mammen and Mr. Govindan as Tahsildars. All these appointments have been made since the separation of the Devaswoms from the Land Revenue Department. So what I mean is that the Government are trying to do their best to put in the members of the unrepresented communities without causing any hardship or injustice to the person who is on the verge of promotion. I am sure that Mr. John will recognize that it will be most unjust to pass over the claims of an old man with a big family when he is just on the verge of promotion in order to put in aman from an unrepresented community. I fully sympathise with him in the view that he has taken on this matter. A perusal of the *Civil List* would show that the Government are anxious to give due representation to all communities. I am sure that if the member examines the *Civil List*, he will find that it is true. For Tahsildars, some prescribed qualifications are necessary and it is only those who have some experience that are appointed to that post. I am sure the public will realise that it is not advisable to take in absolutely raw hands and put them as Tahsildars. If that is done, the work in the department and the public would suffer. In conclusion, I would only repeat what I was saying before that the Government are trying to do their best in the matter. I think that, if Mr. John will peruse the *Civil List* and see what we are doing—

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : May I know from Mr. Robinson whether there is any Catholic Tahsildar in the department?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : At present, there are no Catholic Tahsildars in the department because the Government have not been able to find anyone of them in the list of Magistrates from whose ranks they are recruited.

MR. X. G. LOPEZ (*Nominated*) : May I know from Mr. Robinson whether there has been any application from Catholics?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I do not know, as all applications go to the Government.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMBUTIRI (*Jenmies*) : ലാൻറെവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരായിട്ട് നമ്പൂതിരിമാർ വല്ലവരുമുണ്ടോ?

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): ഇപ്പോൾ ഇല്ല.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): May I know from Mr. Robinson whether there is any Jacobite Christian among the Tahsildars or Division Assistants?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know whether the Christian gentlemen are Jacobites or Mar Thoma; Mr. Thomas may probably know it better than I do.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Since the Government have classified them under separate heads, I requested Mr. Robinson whether there is any one in the department who belongs to the Jacobite community.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say whether Government are prepared again to divide the Christian community into several sub-sections. If they make that distinction, the Christian community will have to be sub-divided into 101 sub-divisions.

K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): In the answer given by the Government to an interpellation, I find the Christian community divided into several sub-sections. The answer states that the Christians are divided into Protestant, Roman Catholic and Syrian, and the last again into Jacobite, Reformed and Romo-Syrian.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) Even that I think is defective.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Sir, I am not enamoured of the idea of dividing the Christian community into several communities. But may I know if there is any Jacobite who is a Tahsildar?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commisrioner*): I think Mr. Abraham is a Jacobite.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): No, he is a Mar Thoma.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): May I know whether there were any Mahomedan applicants for the place?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not know as all applications go to the Government.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): May I know whether there are Mahomedan Tahsildars at present?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): There are no Mahomedan Tahsildars at present.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): May I know whether there is any Mahomedan Proverthikar in the department?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think there is any.

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil cum Devicolam*) : Do the Government make communal considerations in the matter of appointments on the basis of minimum educational qualification or on the basis of equal qualification ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I do not think the Government have laid down any exact principle. It is not possible to say whether we should go by the number of the community or by the number of educated persons in the community. So what I say is that it is not possible to lay down any principle and that we are trying to satisfy everybody.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : May I know how the Government act when the qualifications of the applicants belonging to a community largely represented are much higher than the qualifications of the applicants belonging to other communities ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I do not understand him.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : For instance, I may say there is an application from a Brahmin who is a graduate in law and another from a Mahomedan who is only an arts graduate. In such cases, may I know whether preference will be given to the Mahomedan or to the Brahmin ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner* : That is a hypothetical case. We are trying to deal with the matter as justly as possible. What Mr. Joseph mentions is a hypothetical case and I do not think that such a case has come up as yet. If such a case comes in the future, we will try to solve it in the best way possible.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : May I know from Mr. Robinson whether Government give preference to efficiency or to the principle of communal representation ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I must make a reference to the Government so far as that matter is concerned.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMBUTIRI (*Jeypies*) : ഇന്നയിന്ന ജാതിയിൽനിന്നും ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനു നിയമിക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതിനു വല്ല നിശ്ചയവുമുണ്ടോ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : ഇല്ല.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : Mr. Robinson stated that the Tahsildars are being recruited from the Stationary Magistrates. May I know from him from where these Magistrates are being recruited ?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : From all departments.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : Is it from the ministerial staff ?

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, from the Secretariat, Account Office, etc.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Am I to understand from Mr. Robinson that there is no direct system of recruitment of Tahsildars from non-officials?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): So far there has been no such case.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): So, may I take it from him that according to him the question of communal representation does not arise in this connection?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I follow Mr. Subba Aiyar, but I think the question requires a little time to answer.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, while I was listening to the discussion here, I felt as if I was being washed off my feet. I did not know where we were drifting to. The Government in a weak moment said they were prepared to try the principle of communal representation consistently with efficiency, qualification, etc. But, once they concede that, I am sure they will find that it leads them to a position of *reductio ad absurdum*. Sir, there are several communities in the State. Even according to Government there are 14 classifications; and they also say very vaguely that there are 'other Hindus' and other communities. I am sure even among these 'other Hindus' again, there are ever so many classifications. Thus, ultimately we shall find that we do not know how many communities there are on the whole. So far as I could see there can be only one community for the whole State and that is the *body politic* of the State. But then, Sir, the Government are prepared to concede, in their weak moments or out of a sense of nervousness, or in their anxiety to please the bulk of certain communities, the principle of communal representation in the matter of recruitment to public service. But, so far as the interests of the State are concerned, certainly the policy of minimum qualification for the posts should never be encouraged. Sir, we are here to serve the interests of the State and not merely to share among ourselves the revenue of the State. If we want to take back the revenue that we pay in proportion to our remittance, then I ask why not we insist in not paying the revenue at all? Why not we look to the *Census Report* or to the *Administration Report* and ask the Government to return to us the revenue that we have paid? I am sure the case of the Pulayas and other depressed classes will then have lost. It does not possibly matter. All that matters is that the grown up monkey is fully benefited even if the monkey cub has burnt his fingers. The civic rights of the Pulayas and others are also loudly championed by these communal advocates. But I am afraid their name is often being dragged into discussions of this nature only to strengthen the case of the advocates. Once we accept the principle, we find that communal spirit increases and the out-cry for more and more communal representation becomes immeasurable. What I want, therefore, to point out to the Government is that this principle of communal representation is not a sound principle at all and cannot wisely be accepted as a policy to be followed by the Government.

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MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know from the member what, according to him, should be the principle of recruitment?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Efficiency should be the only basis in the matter of recruitment. There must be open competition based on certain definite principles, and the people of the State should be given equal opportunities to compete.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I ask Mr. A. K. Pillai whether the several departmental heads recruit at present solely on the principle of efficiency?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): If they are not doing it at present, we must insist upon it.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇതുവരെ മത്സര പരീക്ഷ ഏർപ്പെടുത്താത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ചില സമുദായക്കാക്ക് ണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷത്തേയും ചില സമുദായക്കാക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ഗുണത്തേയും ഇപ്പോൾ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ കഴിയുമോ?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ഇല്ല. ഇതുവരെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷത്തെ നിലനിത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകാതിരിക്കുന്നതിന് എന്തെല്ലാം വേണോ അതെല്ലാം ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കും.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അതിനു വർഗ്ഗീയ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമല്ലെ നല്ലതു?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): അല്ല. ഇതു വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊണ്ടു ഇതുവരെയുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷത്തെ നിലനിത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകയേ ഉള്ളൂ. ഇതുവരെ നായന്മാർ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറ്റൊരു ജാതിക്കാർ നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്ന അബദ്ധങ്ങളെല്ലാം ചെയ്യാൻ ഞങ്ങൾക്കും സൌകര്യം കിട്ടണമെന്നല്ല ഒരു സമുദായക്കാർ പറയേണ്ടതു്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കുറഞ്ഞവർക്കു ശരിയായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കിട്ടിയില്ലാതെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പ്രാതിനിധ്യക്കുറവിനെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ഇപ്പോൾ ഏതു ശക്തി ഉപയോഗിച്ചു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം വേണമെന്നു ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നോ ആ ശക്തികൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷത്തെ മാറ്റാൻ ആണു നോക്കേണ്ടതു്. അല്ലാതെ ആ ദോഷം ചെയ്യാനുള്ള അവസരം ഞങ്ങൾക്കും കിട്ടിയതിനു ശേഷമേ അതു മാറ്റാവു എന്നു ഒരു സമുദായം പറഞ്ഞാൽ പോരാ.

The moment any community is conscious that it has been unduly deprived of its rights, it must at once see that proper check is exercised over the appointing authorties.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): Suppose that, for a post, there are two applicants, one from Travancore and the other from outside Travancore, and that while the Travancorean applicant is efficient enough, the other from

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[Mr. N. V. Joseph.]

outside Travancore is more efficient. May I know which of these applicants should, in the opinion of Mr. A. K. Pillai, be chosen for the place?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): There are certain departments, the Engineering Department for instance, in regard to which I do not care whether the officer appointed is a Travancorean or not. We should choose the best man available.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): My question was whether, in the matter of taking them into Government service in general, the non-Travancorean applicant should be preferred, according to Mr. A. K. Pillai, to the Travancorean applicant simply because the former is more efficient than the latter although the latter is efficient enough for the post.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I am coming to it. It is not a question which I can answer by means of an 'yes' or 'no'. There are certain departments, the Railway or the Engineering Department for instance, in regard to which we should care only for efficiency and nothing else. Territorial barriers should not be considered in the recruitment to such departments. Even if an Italian is prepared to come here and serve the State for the salary that we offer, we should be prepared to appoint him if only we are convinced, from his antecedents and qualifications, that he is the most efficient man available. We want the maximum benefit out of the investment. We want maximum return for the money that we pay. But, in regard to some other posts, the Tahsildar's post for instance, or that of the Dewan Peishkar, or, I would say, even that of the Dewan, we may rightly demand that we should have a Travancorean appointed to these posts. It is only if suitable Travancoreans are not available that we need go in for foreigners to fill up these posts? Why? Because Travancoreans know the local conditions best, and a knowledge of the local conditions is essential for the proper and efficient discharge of the duties of these officers.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): Am I to understand from the member that there are some departments in regard to which we need not care for the greatest efficiency?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Not so. I repeat that efficiency should be the only consideration in the matter of recruitment to public service.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): Then, why not prefer the non-Travancorean applicant, who is more efficient than the Travancorean applicant, in regard to all appointments in Government service?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): There are certain cases, like the posts of the Tahsildars, Dewan Peishkars and the Dewan, in which efficiency necessarily includes a knowledge of the local conditions also.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): Am I to understand that, by local conditions, he means a knowledge of the people in the locality?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): When I refer to people of any locality; I always refer to the people of the State as a whole. As I have said already, the only community I know of, and am prepared to recognise, is the *body politic* of the State.

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MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Has he got any objection in getting down very efficient Europeans?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I have absolutely no objection in getting down efficient European gentlemen in regard to matters which require expert advice. I shall not certainly stand in the way of a Chief Engineer being got down from England or America or Italy or Iceland so long as we are satisfied from the antecedents of the man that he will serve the best interests of the State. Sir, we want the best results; we want the maximum return for the money that we pay. We do not mind paying 1,000 or 2,000 rupees. We find that European firms never grudge to pay high salaries if they are able to get very efficient service. They only care to see that they get maximum benefit out of minimum expenditure. We all know that the East India Company appointed Indians not because they were not able to get Europeans but because they knew that they could get maximum benefit out of minimum expenditure. In the same way, I have no objection to an efficient man being paid five or six thousand rupees even, if only we are convinced that we can get from him suitable return for the amount we pay him. Some of the members of this House seem to think that if we spend 100 rupees by way of salaries, each community should have its share of it, whether the State gets adequate return for it or not. If we are to take up that attitude and if we want to share amongst ourselves the revenues of the State without caring at all whether the State gets adequate return for what it spends, I say, we shall be converting the public service into a veritable thieves' kitchen where all crowd together and divide the plunder among themselves. Suppose there is a national militia. Suppose there is war in the country. Will those people who now demand their share in the matter of appointments come forward and say "Accept my services; I am prepared to fight for the State". Would they impatiently inquire. "How many Catholics have been recruited as soldiers?" How many Mahomedans have been recruited? Would they complain that the representation in the army was not in proportion to the strength of the different communities and that therefore unrepresented communities should be better represented in the army. Does anybody think that people will come forward to serve the country in such circumstances? Then the people will shirk their responsibility. Now they are anxious to get into Government service, not because they want to serve the country, but because they want to take for themselves the maximum share of the Government revenue. Sir, that is not the attitude that should be taken by the people in the matter. I only wanted the House to consider this aspect of the question and I am sure there are many among the members of this House who will agree with me in this matter.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): When was this policy of communal representation accepted by the Government?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I do not think the Government have *accepted* the principle of communal representation. Even if they have accepted it, they must have done so thoughtfully and in one

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of their weak moments. Anyhow, I hope they will consider the matter over again and try their best to help themselves out of this unsound unenviable position I think they must pluck up courage to do it at the earliest opportunity. I know that the Government have got the strength to do things that they want to do. I need not give instances in which they have done like that. I do not see why they do not command their strength to put an end to *this* unsound policy.

MR. KAYYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): If the trend of the general public opinion in the country is in favour of communal representation in the public service, will the Government, according to Mr. A. K. Pillai, be acting rightly if they do not accept the principle of communal representation?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): There cannot be any *public* opinion in support of communal representation. You have to divide the public into several compartments, or communities as they are called, and then say that the public opinion in this community or in that community is in favour of communal representation. I do not think it will be a sound policy of administration and a sound policy of Government, if the Government are frightened by such wild demands on the part of particular sections of the public.

MR. KAYYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): If every community is asking for communal representation in the public service and if all the communities together make up the public of Travancore, will such a public opinion be a sufficient reason, according to Mr. A. K. Pillai, for the Government to accept it as their policy?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I submit, that again is begging the question. There are ever so many communities the names of all of which are not mentioned in the classification made by Government. The Vedars are not asking for the Tahsildars' posts or for the High Court Judges' posts. The Government in their classification of the several communities in the State have mentioned 15 names and then have provided a big margin for numerous other communities also. Suppose there are, on the whole, 20 communities in the State. How many Judges have you got in the High Court? How many Dewan Peishkars are there in the State? How many of these 20 communities can be satisfied by appointment of their representatives as High Court Judges or as Peishkars. As I said at the outset, we will come to a position of *reductio ad absurdum*. We will find that we cannot proceed beyond a certain limit. We have therefore to resist this unhealthy agitation. I ask then, why not resist it at the earliest possible moment and once for all say, "We are not going to concede this absurd proposition of communal representation?" The hardship felt by any one community may be represented in the Sri MulamPopular Assembly. There, the representatives of the aggrieved communities may go and say that they are being wilfully forgotten in the matter of recruitment to public service. There is no reason in saying that because a particular community has been doing mischief for sometime past, the Government must allow all the other communities also the opportunity to do mischief in their turn. That is not an attitude which the Government must countenance.

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MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*) : ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടമെൻറിൽ ഒരു ജാതിയിലുള്ള ആളുകൾ തന്നെ അധികമായി വളരുന്നതു കാണുമ്പോൾ അതു പരിഹരിക്കേണ്ടതല്ലേ?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : "വളരുന്നതു കാണുമ്പോൾ" എന്നുവെച്ചാൽ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടമെൻറിൽ ഒരേ വർഗ്ഗത്തിലുള്ള ആളുകളെ ധാരാളം കാണുമ്പോൾ എന്നല്ലേ? അധികം സിൽബന്ധികളുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് എന്താണു ദോഷം? അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു രാജ്യത്തിനു ഗുണം ചെയ്യുമാണു നോക്കേണ്ടതു്. അതിലേയ്ക്കു പരീക്ഷവയ്ക്കുയും അതിൽ എല്ലാവർക്കും ചേരുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കയും ചെയ്യണം.

Sir, my suggestion is this. There must be open competition. We must lay down definite conditions under which alone people could be recruited to public service. All the people should be given an opportunity to have equal start. Equal opportunity must be afforded to all the people of the country. No set of people should be debarred from competing. There must be equal opportunities so far as the start is concerned. When we start a half-a-mile race, for instance, we ask all the competitors to start from the same place and say 'One', 'Two,' 'Three', and all of them have to start at the same time. We give the prize to the quickest man. We do not give any concession to the man who is weak or who is ill. We do not say that since the man who comes second is physically weak, he should be given the prize in preference to the first.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*) : May I know from Mr. A. K. Pillai whether, in the matter of nominating members to representative assemblies, like the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council, he is in favour of communal representation?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : I am prepared to concede that as a temporary measure. As Mr. Kunjitomman put it, if we arrange certain dishes on a table, little children may be standing very low and may require foot-stools. In the same way, communities which cannot get themselves represented in these popular bodies by open election have to be represented by nominations. But that principle cannot be followed with regard to State service.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*) : Is it not desirable, in the opinion of Mr. A. K. Pillai, to have the best men as the representatives in popular bodies?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : If we are going to have something like a Privy Council which has to give definite instructions to Government in all matters, and which need not confine to making representations alone, then, in the case of such a body, I should say that the wisest men in the country should be chosen as in ancient Athens or Rome. We want the best brains there and not merely men with minimum qualifications. If we say that it would be enough if the Government recruit men with the minimum qualification, that only shows that we are not anxious to get the maximum benefit for what is

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spent. If when a weak man comes and says 'I am a weak man. I am not competent to challenge any body. I cannot succeed if I sit for competitive examinations. But I have got the minimum qualification necessary. Kindly take me into your service because there are not many belonging to my community in your service at present'. You say that this sort of argument is logical, then why not appoint all the uneducated and illiterate people to the several posts under the Government? Suppose like the Chartists' movement in England, all the uneducated people here join together and say 'We are the majority. You have been educating the people of the country for the last so many years. Still even now, we, the uneducated people, form the majority in the country. We are prepared to teach literature and the sciences in your colleges. Appoint us as the Professors in the colleges. And a ppoint one of us as the Chief Engineer'and so on. I ask, is the member prepared to accept that logic and appoint these illiterate men for the reason of their being unrepresented in the service?

MR K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Does not Mr. A. K. Pillai recognise that, if the Chartists really formed the majority, there would have been no question of their *professing* to be the majority, and that they would really have carried out what they wanted?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): But for the rules, I would have asked a counter question to Mr. Mammen Mappillai in reply to his question. May I ask him whether the uneducated people do not form the majority now? Suppose they come forward and show by actual figures that they are the majority and that they are uneducated, should the Government be prepared to grant them the same concession which they are now being asked to grant in favour of the so-called unrepresented and backward communities? If the principle of communal representation is logical, then why not extend the logic in favour of the illiterate people who form the majority in our country at present?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Suppose there are two applicants for a post, one from a well represented community and the other from a backward community and both have equal examination qualifications. Whom will the member prefer?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): I do not care for examination qualifications as such, and by themselves. I care only for efficiency. He who is more efficient should be chosen.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഞാൻ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. രാജ്യത്തിൽ ക്ഷേമം വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതിനും, വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ ഐകമത്യവും പൊതുവിൽ സമാധാനവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനും ആയി ഉദ്യോഗദാന വിഷയത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയ പ്രാധിനിധ്യം സ്വീകരിക്കേണ്ടതു ന്യായാവശ്യമാണു്.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം സ്വീകരിക്കണമെന്നോ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവർണ്മെൻറു സ്വീകരിച്ചു എന്നോ അറിഞ്ഞ

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തിനുശേഷമല്ലെ ഇങ്ങിനെ ധാരാളം ആവശ്യപ്പെടാൻ തുടങ്ങിയതും അസ്വസ്ഥത വളർത്തിച്ചതും?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ചില രോഗത്തിനു ചികത്സിക്കുമ്പോൾ രോഗം ആരംഭത്തിൽ കുറെ വളർത്തിച്ചിട്ടായിരിക്കാം ഒടുവിൽ സുഖപ്പെടുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ചികിത്സ നിർത്തുന്നതു ശരിയാണോ?

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ചില സുഖക്കേടുകൾക്കു കുറച്ചു കൊടുക്കാറുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊടുക്കുന്നതാരും കൂടുതൽ കുറച്ചു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടി വരുമെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇതു് അതുമാതിരിയുള്ള സുഖക്കേടല്ല. (ചിരി.) രാജ്യത്തു പൊതുവിൽ സമാധാനവും ജനങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ ഐകമത്യവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനു് ഉദ്യോഗദാനവിഷയത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം നൽകേണ്ടതത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാരും അതിലേക്കുള്ള ഉൽക്കണ്ഠ പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെടുത്തിക്കഴിഞ്ഞു. "ഞങ്ങളുടെ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കു പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവ്വീസിൽ വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ലഭിക്കുന്നില്ല" എന്നു് എല്ലാവർഗ്ഗക്കാരും പറയാറുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ ലാൻറവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ അനേകം കാലം പല വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും പ്രവേശനം അനുവദിക്കപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നില്ല. ജനങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ നിന്നും നികുതി പിരിക്ക, പോക്കുവരവു നടത്തുക, പുതുവൽ ഭൂമികം പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്ക, പട്ടയം കൊടുക്ക, ജനപ്രതിനിധി സഭകൾക്കു പ്രതിനിധികളെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വോട്ടേർസ് ലിസ്റ്റ് തയ്യാറാക്ക, മുതലായി ജനസാമാന്യത്തെ സാരമായി ബാധിക്കുന്ന പല പ്രധാനകാര്യങ്ങളും നിർവഹിക്കേണ്ടതു ലാൻറവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാരാണല്ലോ. വേറെ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാർക്കും പൊതുജനങ്ങളോടു് ഇത്ര ഇടപെടേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ രാജ്യത്തെ ര ല ലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളിൽ ഏതാനും ചില വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കു മാത്രമേ പ്രവേശം നൽകുകയുള്ളു എന്നു വന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു വളരെ ദുസ്സഹമായ ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. ഉദ്യോഗ നിയമനവിഷയത്തിൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ മറ്റുപല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലും ഉള്ളതുപോലെയോ അധികമോ വർഗ്ഗീയപക്ഷപാതം കാണിക്കുന്നു എന്നു കണക്കുകൊണ്ടു കാണാം. പുകകാണുന്നിടത്തു് അഗ്നിയുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നതുപോലെ എവിടെയെല്ലാം ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനത്തിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ വർഗ്ഗീയപക്ഷപാതം കാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ അവിടെയെല്ലാം മറ്റു ഉദ്യോഗകൃത്യങ്ങളിലും അവർ വർഗ്ഗീയപക്ഷപാതം കാണിക്കും എന്നു ന്യായമായി പറയാവുന്നതാണു്.

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

കൃഷിക്കാരായ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിയുള്ള പരിശ്രമത്താലാണ് രാജഭണ്ഡാരം പോഷിക്കുന്നത്. ലാൻഡ്റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ നികുതി, എക്സൈസ്നികുതി, രജിസ്ട്രേഷൻ ഫീസ് തുടങ്ങിയുള്ള എല്ലാത്തരം നികുതികളും നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിലെ കൃഷീവലന്മാരിൽ നിന്നുമാണ് അധികവും സംഭരിച്ചുവരുന്നത്. രാജ്യത്തെ മുതലെടുപ്പ് രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ എല്ലാ ഭാഗങ്ങളിലും എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാരിലും നിന്നാണല്ലോ. വരവിൽനിന്നും ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്ന പണവും എല്ലാ ഭാഗത്തുള്ളവർക്കും എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും ശരിയായി കിട്ടാൻ അവകാശമുണ്ട്. പണത്തിൻെറ സ്ഥിതി എങ്ങിനെയിരുന്നാലും ഉദ്യോഗഭാനത്തിൽ സമഭാവനയില്ലെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ എങ്ങിനെ ഐകമത്യവും സമാധാനവും ഉണ്ടാകും?

മത്സര പരീക്ഷ കാണ്ടാണ് ഇതിനു നിവൃത്തിയുണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു്, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ എഫിഷ്യൻസി പോകും എന്ന് ഒരു മെംബർ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. പല വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും ശരിയായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവീസിൽ ലഭിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള സ്വരം രാജ്യമൊട്ടുക്കു മുഴങ്ങിയതിനു ശേഷമാണ് മത്സരപരീക്ഷ വേണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വാദം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം അധികമുള്ള ഭാഗത്തുനിന്നുമാണെന്നാണ്.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ഒരു ഹിന്ദു രാജാവു് തോന്ന്യാസമായിട്ടു രാജ്യഭരണം നടത്തുന്നു എന്നിരിക്കട്ടെ. ആ അവസരത്തിൽ മെമ്പർ ഒരു ജനപ്രതിനിധിഭരണം ആവശ്യപ്പെടുമോ അതല്ല ഒരു കൺസ്റ്റ്യൂഷൻ രാജാവുകൂടി അങ്ങിനെ തോന്ന്യാഭാസ ഭരണം നടത്തിയതിനു മേൽ ജനപ്രതിനിധിഭരണത്തിനു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽമതി എന്നു വിചാരിക്കുമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): ഏതവസരത്തിലും നീതി നടക്കയും ജനക്ഷേമം വർദ്ധിക്കയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നേ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വിചാരിക്കാവു. അതിനു കാലഭേദമില്ല.

ഫസ്റ്റ് ക്ലാസ് ഫസ്റ്റ് പേക്കു വീതിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നിരിക്കട്ടെ. അതിൽ നൂറു രൂപായും രണ്ടു പേർക്കുനിച്ചു ആദ്യമേ എടുത്തു. ബാക്കി പത്തു രൂപായുള്ളതെങ്കിലും കിട്ടാത്തപേക്കു തരണമെന്നുപറയുമ്പോൾ അതുപാടില്ലാ, പത്തുപേക്കും സമമായിട്ടു തന്നെ ആ പത്തു രൂപയും ഭാഗിക്കണം എന്നു കൂടുതൽ എടുത്ത രണ്ടു പേർ പറയുന്നതുപോലെയാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം പാടില്ലെന്നും മത്സരപരീക്ഷയിൽപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നും പറയുന്നതു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിലിരിക്കുന്നവരെ എല്ലാം ഒഴിപ്പിച്ചു് മത്സരപ്പരീക്ഷ എർപ്പെടുത്തി ജയിക്കുന്നവരെമാത്രം

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വീണ്ടും നിയമിക്കയാണെങ്കിൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. അതു സാദ്ധ്യമല്ലല്ലോ. ഇപ്പോൾ റവന്യൂ വകുപ്പിൽ ഫ 0 0 –ന ൻ 0 –ം ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ ചിലവർക്കാർ കരസ്ഥമാക്കികഴിഞ്ഞു. ഇനിഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ഒഴിവിൽഎങ്കിലും ഞങ്ങളെ നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊഞ്ഞവർക്കാർ പറയുമ്പോൾ അതിനു മത്സരപരീക്ഷവയ്ക്കണം എന്നു പറയുന്നതു് ഒരുമാതിരി ആശാസകരമായിരിക്കുമെന്നു പ്രത്യേകം ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ചിലവർക്കാരോടു പ്രത്യേകം ആനുകൂല്യം കാണിച്ചതിനാൽ ചില ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലെ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളിൽ ആ വർക്കാർ മാത്രമായി. മേലിലെങ്കിലും ജനസംഖ്യയനുസരിച്ചു പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കുറവുള്ള വർക്കാരെ മാത്രമേ ഏതാനും കാലത്തേക്കു നിയമിക്കു എന്നുവയ്ക്കേണ്ടതു ഗവർണ്മെൻറിൻെറ കടമയാണു്.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : ഒരു തത്വം സ്വീകരിക്കയാണെങ്കിൽ, വേടൻ, കുറവൻ, പറയർ, പുലയർ, മുതലായ ജാതിക്കാക്കും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമുണ്ടായിഅവർ എല്ലാം മത്സരപരീക്ഷയ്ക്കു വരികയും അവരും ഉദ്യോഗം ധനസമ്പാദനമാർഗ്ഗമായി കരുതുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതു വരെ ഇതു വേണ്ടെന്നാണോ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*) : ധനസമ്പാദനത്തെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു മാത്രമല്ല പറയുന്നതു്. രാജ്യത്തു നീതിനടക്കുകയും ക്ഷേമം വർദ്ധിക്കയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നുദ്ദേശിച്ചു കൂടിയാണു പറയുന്നതു്. റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പ്രവേശനം ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്തവർക്കാർ ഡിവിഷനിലും താലൂക്കിലും പകുതിയിലും പോകുമ്പോൾ അവരുടെ അനുഭവം എന്താണെന്നു എനിക്കറിയാം. ജനസങ്കടത്തിനു ഒരുക്കം വരുന്നതിനു വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം അനുവദിക്കയല്ലാതെ മറു മാർഗ്ഗമില്ല.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : അങ്ങിനെയാണെങ്കിൽ ഓരോ താലൂക്കിലും എല്ലാ ജാതിക്കാരുടേയും പ്രാതിനിധ്യമുള്ളതായ താലൂക്കു ബോർഡു ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുകയും അവക്കു നിയന്ത്രണാധികാരം കൊടുക്കയും ചെയ്താൽ പോരേ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*) : അതുപ്രായോഗികലോകത്തിൽ അടുത്തകാലത്തു സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇന്ത്യയിൽ ഉടനീളം താലൂക്കിൽ ലോക്കൽ ബോർഡുകൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*) : അവിടെയും വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യമുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വിവരം മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. പിള്ളയ്ക്കു അറിയാമല്ലോ.

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ക്രമപ്പെടുത്തുകയെന്നുള്ളതു് വളരെ പ്രയാസമാണു്. വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം അനുവദിക്കുന്നതു് അതിനും വളരെ സൌകര്യമുണ്ടാക്കും. ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പലപടികളിലും ഒരേ ജാതിക്കാർ ആയിരുന്നാൽ അഴിമതിവർദ്ധിക്കയേ ഉള്ളൂ. ജാതിതണലിലാണല്ലോ അഴിമതികളും അക്രമങ്ങളും വളരുന്നതു്. അതു കൊണ്ടു് ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യതത്വം സ്വീകരിക്കേണ്ടതു് എന്തുകൊണ്ടും അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. എല്ലാഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും വിശിഷ്യ ലാൻറ്റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും അതിലും പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു താലൂക്കുകച്ചേരികളും പകൃതികച്ചേരികളും ഇവയിലും എല്ലാവർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും നിയമനം നടത്തിസങ്കടമനുഭവിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വർഗ്ഗക്കാരുടെ അവകാശത്തെ പരിരക്ഷിക്കണം. ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനു യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരെമാത്രം നിയമിച്ചാൽമതി. പരീക്ഷപാസ്സായിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകൾ മിക്കവർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിലും ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടു്. കായ്ക്ഷമതയും ചിലവർഗ്ഗക്കാക്കു മാത്രമുള്ളതല്ലല്ലോ.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): കൂടുതൽ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരെ കിട്ടിയാൽ കുറഞ്ഞ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവക്കു കൊടുക്കണോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരെ സ്വീകരിക്കണമെന്നാണെല്ലൊ വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു. യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവർ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ലാത്ത വർഗ്ഗക്കാരിൽ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവക്കു കൊടുക്കണം.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : എൻറെ ചോദ്യം അതല്ല. കൂടുതൽ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരെ കിട്ടുമ്പോൾ കുറഞ്ഞ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവക്കു കൊടുക്കണൊ എന്നാണു്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : ആ ചോദ്യത്തിനുംകൂടി മറുപടിയായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എൻറെ പ്രസംഗം കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടു ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ ചോദിച്ചാൽ മറുപടി പറയാം.

സാധുക്കളായ കൃഷീവലന്മാരുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളും വർഗ്ഗീയമായ അനീതിയും എടുത്തു പറയാതെ തരമില്ല. ഞാൻ നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തുള്ള ഒരു കൃഷിക്കാരനാണു. അവർക്കുള്ള സങ്കടങ്ങൾ എനിക്കറിയാം. റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ സമഭാവനയുള്ളവരല്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു മറു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളെക്കാൾ ജനങ്ങളെ അധികം ബാധിക്കും.

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MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഇപ്പോഴും വല്ല അഴിമതികളും നടക്കുന്നതായിട്ടു സംശയമുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): പണ്ടേതന്നെ മറ്റു പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ അഴിമതിയുള്ള ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറാണു റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ്. അതിലും യോഗ്യന്മാർ ഉണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ സംഖ്യ കുറയും.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അഴിമതി ഇല്ലാതാകുമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): വളരെ കുറയും. ഒട്ടുംകൂടുവാൻ വഴിയില്ല നിശ്ചയം. പ്രജാസഭാനിയമസഭയുടെങ്ങിയുള്ള ജനപ്രതിനിധിസഭകൾക്കു പ്രതിനിധികളെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രതിപത്തി തെളിഞ്ഞു കാണാം. റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാരാണെല്ലോ വോട്ടേർസ് ലിസ്റ്റ് തയാറാക്കുന്നതു്. വോട്ടിനു് അവകാശമുള്ളവരെ ലിസ്റ്റിൽ ചേർക്കാതേയും അവകാശമില്ലാത്തവരെ ചേർത്തും ഇങ്ങിനെ പല അഴിമതികളും കാണിച്ചാൽ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ ഉടനെ സാധിക്കയില്ല.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): പട്ടയം—

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഒടുവിൽ ചോദിക്കണം.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): ഒടുവിൽ ചോദിച്ചാൽ പോരാ. ഇപ്പോൾ ചോദിച്ചു മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. പട്ടയം അനുസരിച്ചല്ലേ ലിസ്റ്റു തയാറാക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): തെറ്റായി വോട്ടേർഴ്സ ലിസ്റ്റ് തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നപക്ഷം കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുവാൻ പ്രയാസം. അയ്യായിരമോ ആറായിരമോ വോട്ടറന്മാരുള്ള ഒരു താലൂക്കിലെ വോട്ടവകാശമുള്ള ആരെയെല്ലാം വിട്ട അവകാശമില്ലാത്ത ആരെയെല്ലാം ചേർത്തു എന്നു കണ്ടുപിടിക്കു എന്നുള്ളതു് വയ്ക്കോൽ തുറുവിൽനിന്നും ഒരു മൊട്ട സൂചി തപ്പി എടുക്കുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ പ്രയാസമുള്ളതാണു. അതിലുള്ള തെറ്റു കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനു തണ്ടപ്പേർ നോക്കിയാലെ നിവർത്തിയുള്ളു. തണ്ടപ്പേർ സവർണ്ണ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കയ്യിലാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ല. രോഗം വൈദ്യനെ വ്യക്തമായി മനസ്സിലാക്കണമല്ലോ. ഈ പ്രതിനിധിസഭയിൽനിന്നുതന്നെയാണല്ലോ ഈവിധ രാഷ്ട്രീയരോഗങ്ങൾക്കു ശമനമുണ്ടാ-

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

കേണ്ടതു്. അതിനാൽ സദുദ്ദേശത്തോടെ ഇവിടെ സംഗതികൾ ഇ റന്നു പറയുകതന്നെവേണം.

പതുവൽ പതിവു കായ്ത്തിലും റെവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കുറഞ്ഞവക്കു മറുള്ളവരെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു വിഷമങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നാണു് അനുഭവസ്ഥർ പറയുന്നതു്. വർഗ്ഗീയ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം അനുവദിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ ചില വർഗ്ഗക്കാക്കു ദുസ്സഹമായ പല സങ്കടങ്ങളും മേലാലും അനുഭവിക്കേണ്ടിവരും. എൻെറ മാന്യ സ്നേഹിതൻ മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. പിള്ള ജനസങ്കടത്തിൻെറ വാസ്തവസ്വഭാവം വേണ്ടതുപോലെ മനസ്സിലാക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണു വിരുദ്ധാഭിപ്രായം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്നതെന്നും വാസ്തവം മനസ്സിലാക്കിയാൽ എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു യോജിക്കുമെന്നും ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): അതുകൊണ്ടല്ലെന്നു മെമ്പറെ ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുത്തികൊള്ളട്ടെ. ഇപ്പോൾ ഉള്ള ദോഷത്തെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ വേറെ മാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കണം.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): എൻെറ മാന്യ സ്നേഹിതൻ പറയുന്നതു ഇതിലേക്കു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ അക്രമികളായ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ സർവ്വീസിൽനിന്നും പിരിച്ചുവിടണമെന്നായിരിക്കാം. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു പ്രജാസഭയിലും നിയമസഭയിലും വളരെക്കാലമായിട്ടു പറയാറുണ്ടു്. ഞാൻതന്നെ ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ചു പ്രജാസഭയിൽ നിവേദനവും നിയമസഭയിൽ റെസല്യൂഷനും കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടൊന്നും പരിഹാരമുണ്ടായില്ല. മേലിലും പരിഹരിക്കുമെന്നു എളുപ്പമല്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ജനസങ്കടത്തിനു് ഒരു പ്രധാന പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം മാത്രമേയുള്ളൂ. അതുപ്രയോഗത്തിൽ വരുത്താൻ പ്രയാസമില്ല. റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പൊതുവിലും, പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു താലൂക്കുകച്ചേരികളിലും, കത്തോലിക്കസ്സുറിയാനികൾ, ഈഴവർ, മഹമ്മദീയർ തുടങ്ങിയുള്ള പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കുറഞ്ഞ വർഗ്ഗക്കാരുടെ അപേക്ഷകളെ പ്രഥമമായി ഗണിച്ചു നിയമനം നടത്തണമെന്നുള്ള എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായത്തെ തുറന്നു പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Sir, it is easy to demonstrate that there are disadvantages in communal representation. On ideal grounds, it is almost incontrovertible that communal representation, whether in representative institutions or in

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the public service, is a source of great injury to the body politic. But as was pointed out by the Deputy President on a former occasion and in another context, we are not living in Utopias. We have to do with the practical world in which we have to deal with the practical problems as they exist. The roots of these problems are deep down in the past and in deep social cleavages and historical differences. For practical administrators, it will not be desirable in the best interests of the Government to ignore these differences. My own personal opinion is that as little prominence should be given to this question of communal representation as possible and if my own personal sentiments were alone consulted, I would never raise my voice of protest against the over-representation of any particular community, provided the ends of efficiency were adequately met. But I recognise that when there are people who are not of my way of thinking and when there are a large number of people of different communities who desire and insist and agitate that their respective claims should be considered by the Government, it will not be desirable for the authorities to ignore these persistent demands altogether without creating a state of things that would be very unhealthy indeed. As has been cogently pointed out time and again, communal representation lends itself to a lot of abuse. As was pointed out by Mr. A. K. Pillai it may be condemned also on *reductio ad absurdum* methods. We cannot as a cut and dry measure lay down that all appointments should be made solely on grounds of efficiency by means of open competition, nor is it possible for us to lay down the rule that the claims of all communities should be equally met in making Government appointments. The only wise thing to do in such a case would be to try and meet as far as possible the sentiments of the less adequately represented communities. Mr. A. K. Pillai was speaking about the Vedars and the hill tribes. They are not articulate communities. It is unfortunate that those communities which could not make themselves heard are pushed into the background. But their side should be taken by the Government and the Government should see that no injustice is done to the inarticulate communities. The Government should regard themselves as guardians of the rights of the inarticulate communities. I may also say that the privileged and more advanced communities should also try their best to safeguard the claims of their weaker brethren. The Government will have to take into account adequate communal representation and also the question of efficiency. There is the usual reply of the Government that the claims of the various communities consistent with efficiency will be duly taken into account. Of course, that is a very good exposition of policy in theory, but, in practice, it is not possible to carry it out satisfactorily. I think, if we look into the service registers now and also if we read the returns submitted by the heads of the various departments and embodied in the replies of the Government to the various questions asked in this Council, it will be admitted that there is over-representation of certain communities which is absolutely unjustifiable, and under-representation of other communities which is equally unjustifiable; I think that the Government themselves admitted on certain occasions that though there

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[Mr. K. C. Mammen Mappillai.]

were applicants from the under-represented communities, the heads of departments have appointed men from over-represented communities and they have given no satisfactory explanation for their conduct. I think, if sufficient notice is taken of the dereliction of duties on the part of the appointing authorities, some redress may be given. I was very seriously disappointed when I found that the Government were themselves admitting their inability to enforce the rule that when there are applications from men of various communities possessing the requisite qualifications the claims of the under-represented communities should be given preference. In spite of this clear dictum laid down by the Government they themselves were admitting that the several heads of departments were not giving effect to their order. That is a state of things which should not be tolerated. Anyhow, without admitting all the implications of communal representation, it is possible in practice to remove all serious causes of discontent in this matter. Politics is a series of compromises.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagappalli*) : Does Mr. Mammen Mappillai see that in accepting that position we are not compromising ourselves, but we are compromising the best interests of the State?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : We are in a hundred different ways compromising the interests of the State. As I have suggested at the outset we are not living in a Utopia and so we have to be satisfied with certain compromises in these matters.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karungappalli*): Is Mr. Mammen Mappillai prepared to advance that Japan and England are in ideal conditions and that they are Utopian?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): They are not. There also this state of things exists in varying degrees. I am not at all enamoured of a Utopian way of doing things. We are in an imperfect world. It may be an inch too short in one place and it may be an inch too long in another. It may be sometimes receding in a place and making some progress step by step in another. It is not on ideal grounds that we are always acting. In fact the very machinery of Government may have to be scrapped if we view things from a purely idealistic standpoint. Let us be satisfied with the existing state of things and try to progress according to the circumstances in which we live.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, I feel I should say a few words on this topic of communal representation. This is not the first occasion that the subject comes up before the Council. A resolution was moved by Mr. Kunjitomman in the last Council on the same subject. If the members of this House will refer to the proceedings of the Legislative Council, they will find that most of the communities which are represented in this Council have been

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agitating on this question. The Nair, the Christian, the Ezhava, the Mahomedan,—all these communities wanted communal representation to be adopted by the Government.

I do not quite follow Mr. A. K. Pillai when he says that in the best interests of the State the principle of communal representation should not be adopted by the Government. If the people of a State want a certain thing to be done, I do not see how my friend can say that it is not in the best interests of the state. If all the important sections of the State want this particular principle to be accepted, it is certainly a matter only for idealists to say that the State should not accept it. The interests of the State are the interests of the people. Therefore the proposition that it would be much better not to have accepted this principle of communal representation may be adopted probably by a society which may come into existence hereafter.

It often occurred to me that the presence of Mr. A. K. Pillai in this Council is a very important circumstance in this way, namely, that now and then he calls the attention of the House to certain ideals. Even in the discussion of the last Council, he offered some of his suggestions which, although they were not practical, raised the tone of the discussion and called our attention to certain important ideals. In this debate also, Mr. A. K. Pillai was advocating a cause and put forward his own view of things which we should keep in mind and which the heads of departments should consider while they make appointments. Probably, it is a view which could not easily be put into practice. The question before us now is whether, so far as the Revenue Department is concerned, the principle of communal representation must be accepted by the Government. In some of their orders the Government have clearly laid down the rule that, so far as the representation of certain communities in the department is concerned, they, will be guided by the principle of communal representation. They ought to direct their attention to this principle much more in respect of the Land Revenue Department than in respect of any other department. It cannot be denied that the Revenue Department is the most important department in the administration of the country. As has been pointed out by Mr. Kunjitomman and other previous speakers, it is the department with which the people of the country are more intimately connected than with any other department. Land is the most important asset of the people and the Land Revenue Department concerns itself with the collection of the revenue and the maintenance of the land records and so many other things with which the people of the country are very much concerned. Therefore it is all the more reason why there should be due representation of the various communities in that department. It has been pointed out by Mr. Kunjitomman that difficulty is often felt by the members of unrepresented communities when they have dealings with the various revenue officers. For instance, if a taluk office is officered by members of one particular community, the members of other communities will find it absolutely impossible to have any fair dealing with that office; and in various ways people have to deal with that office. It has often been pointed out that the Land

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[Mr. N. Kumaran.]

Revenue Department as well as the other departments are more or less corrupt, especially in the lower rungs. Therefore, when a member of an unrepresented community goes to a taluk office and wants something to be done, he has to tip most of the staff. The sprinkling of various communities in the office would prevent the particular community using all its influence against the other communities. Even if you consider the question of efficiency, it is absolutely necessary for the due discharge of duties devolving upon the staff that the staff should consist of the representatives of the various sections of the people who will thus prevent the abuse of power.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Does Mr. Kumaran see that by developing this argument he will find that in a hospital, if there is not a doctor of a particular community, then the patients of that particular community will not be attended to? If it be as Mr. Kumaran suggests, then there must be all the communities represented in a hospital which is not possible.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): My view applies only to the Land Revenue Department, because the case with respect to the Land Revenue Department is very peculiar. In the case of the hospitals, which ever the caste the patients may belong to, the doctors do not refuse to attend to them because they are men of superior service. Their character is such that they will not be influenced by caste considerations or even by the payments that the patients may make.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery cum Peermade*): Is Mr. Kumaran aware that the doctors are allowed to accept private emoluments?

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): They are.

And further, in the hospitals there are only the doctor and the patients. There is no opposite party. In the case of the Land Revenue Department there will be two parties and the officer will be an arbitrator between the two parties. There, it is often possible for parties who are not represented in the staff of the office to have their cases not properly looked into when their opposite party is a member of a community which is represented in the office.

Of course, I do not mean to refer to the conditions that are obtaining in the Judicial Department. There it is entirely different. But in the minor offices, where there is no judicial administration, things are not going on as we desire. So that, even on considerations of efficiency, it is certainly desirable that most of the communities should be represented. Efficiency has been held out as one of the arguments against communal representation. I do not think that it will affect the case. The Government have laid down certain minimum qualifications for a person to be entertained in the service. If the present qualification is not found to be satisfactory, it is for the Government to raise the qualification.

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If, for instance, it is found that the School Final Examination qualification is not enough, the Government may raise the minimum qualification to the Intermediate standard. It is not for any head of the department to say that a particular individual is not efficient. The question of efficiency arises only after a person is appointed in the service. It is open to an officer to say of a clerk that he is not efficient and it is open to him to see that he does not get due promotions. If instead of that the question of efficiency is raised even at the time of recruitment, I think it is absolutely meaningless to say that the question of efficiency should be considered by disregarding the principles of communal representation; for the recognition of the principle of communal representation is not denying in any way the principle of efficiency.

My friend Mr. A. K. Pillai said that it is not proper, after the race has been begun by various communities and when some persons have reached a certain stage and others lagged behind, to say that we are not prepared to run and we must get some concession. I believe that illustration is absolutely wrong because here we have not been starting from the same point. We have started from different points, some five miles in advance and others five miles behind. We are not asked to run the race under the same conditions. Even to-day, about 42 schools are not open to all communities. Is it proper to say that the Pulaya who is denied admission in a school and the Nair who is permitted to study there are running the race on similar conditions? I submit it is very unfair.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Is Mr. Kumaran aware that I am not one of those who oppose the admission of the depressed classes to these schools?

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): I am glad to hear Mr. A. K. Pillai say that. Certainly it improves the tone of these debates if a person speaks about such ideals, because nobody can question the principles on which these considerations are put forth. These ideals may always be before our eyes even if the practice is different. So far as this question is concerned, the principle of communal representation must be accepted by the Government the only thing being that Government must carry out these principles when there are opportunities.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Sir, in view of certain remarks made in this House by some of the members, I beg to offer my own opinion. I am not one of those who make an invidious distinction between community and community. I am as much alive as Mr. A. K. Pillai to the fact that the safety and the healthy progress of a country lie in the perfect concord and union between different communities. But there are certain distinctions between community and community, and I am really sorry that I have to speak in this House for a particular community.

Communal representation on some broad basis is the accepted policy of the Government of India and we are only adapting this

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[Mr. P. Habeeb Mahomed.]

policy here on some working basis. There are certain backward communities that should be uplifted by the Government till they are on a level with the other communities. There are certain individual characteristics in the case of each particular community which cannot be ignored. I, for myself, am of opinion that the individual characteristics of the Mahomedan community must be maintained intact. There are certain matters in which we can merge our individuality with other members of the State, but there are certain other factors in which we have to stand aloof. Human nature being what it is, it is not at all advisable that a particular community should always be invested with power and authority over other people. It has always been the complaint from my own community that those who are in authority and power are unapproachable and that they often treat them with contempt. They have been complaining to me several times that those communities who are occupying very high posts in the country are often causing untold misery and hardship to such poor communities as the Muslims, and as a member of the community, certainly, I sympathise with them. I grant that, for the perfect growth of democracy and popular government, efficiency is the highest thing, but the question of questions is, "how are we to determine efficiency?" Are we not human beings and are not the Government constituted of people who have their own shortcomings and weaknesses? What I have to say is that one of the greatest defects of modern democracy is its tendency to oppress the weaker classes. I have to submit as a measure of relief to the minor communities that they should be given proportionate representation in all the public bodies including public service. I am not one of those who stand for the principle of communal representation being carried to its logical extreme. I fully accept the principle that this is only a temporary and passing measure, but till equality between different communities of the State is established, this principle should be adhered to. Till that time, we have to pay as much attention to the question of communal representation as to the question of efficiency. With these few words, I support the motion brought forward by Mr. John.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I have been listening with deep interest to Mr. A. K. Pillai's speech. Though I sympathise with the ideals that he upholds, I regret I cannot entirely agree with him in certain of his conclusions. He has been basing his arguments mostly on the fact that service is not desirable, it is low and that the apparent advantages which the evils of service have been giving hitherto should not be sought after by other communities which have been on account of circumstances shut out from the service. But then that is not our viewpoint at all.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): No, Sir. He is misrepresenting me. I never said that. I only spoke about the service in the interests of the State and not in the interests of the artificial compartments that we create from time to time.

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MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I understood him to say that some people are going in for the service, that they have been getting the disadvantages of it and it is not good for other communities also to go in for the same service.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I again correct my friend? I was not saying that any community should not enter service, but what I said was that, when we approach this question, we should not approach it in an attitude as servants, but we only wanted to be masters. Therefore, wherever an opportunity for self-aggrandisement is wanted, I object to it.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Anyway, his viewpoint is different. The people on account of the force of circumstances look upon the service not as an evil, but as one of the most respectable means of livelihood and desire to take to it. Looking at the question from this, viewpoint, I think Mr. A. K. Pillai also will agree that the fight for communal representation was not started recently, but so long ago as in the good old days of Dewan Rama Rao. Since then, certain communities, as a result of agitation, are being represented in service more and more Naturally, therefore, the other communities that have been rather poorly represented should be given their share gradually. I am not myself for it. But still on account of the present day conditions, when a particular community comes forward and says that its share has not been given to it, I think it is the duty of the Government to show some sort of consideration to them.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I do not understand what he means by a 'community's share.'

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I think the member has also been saying the same.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I do not quite understand what he means by a community's share.'

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): The Catholic community has been crying that it has not got its share saying that the members of the community number about six lakhs. It is the same thing that I mean.

I may also observe in this connection that, since the separation of Devaswoms, from the Revenue Department, though the technical difficulty of non-caste Hindus getting into service has been removed, it has not in fact been removed. The lower grades of the service as the figures supplied by the Government show contain very little of the non-caste Hindu element. May I draw the attention of the Government to the fact that, hereafter, as this bar has been removed, some preference should be given in the matter of recruitment in the lower ranks to those communities that are very poorly represented?

Coming to my own denomination, I may give figures to show that that denomination is very poorly represented. Looking at the number of Tahsildars and reading their names given by Mr. Robinson, I am sure that there is not one Tahildar from the Jacobite community. I think this

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[Mr. K. K. Thomas.]

community which is largely composed of educated men is not at all represented. In the whole of the Revenue Department, except for one magistrate, we do not have any member of the community in it. So, I request that the Government, having laid out a policy, should pursue that policy consistently, so that those communities which have been shut out from the advantages of service may also be given some opportunities later on.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): മിസ്റ്റർ ഏ. കെ. പിള്ളയുടെ ഉദ്ദേശശുദ്ധിയെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്ക് എപ്പോഴും വളരെ ബഹുമാനമാണുള്ളത്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ആദർശങ്ങളിൽ ചിലത് പ്രായോഗികങ്ങൾ ആണോ എന്നു ചിലപ്പോൾ എനിക്കു തോന്നീട്ടുള്ളതുപോലെ ഈ അവസരത്തിലും തോന്നുന്നു എന്നു പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികൾ ഞാൻ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളിടത്തോളം മിസ്റ്റർപിള്ളയുടെ ആദർശം ഇവിടെ ഉപയോഗകരമായവിധത്തിൽ സ്വീകരിക്കാമോ എന്ന് എനിക്കു വളരെ സംശയം ഉണ്ട്. ഉദ്യോഗദാനവിഷയത്തിൽ കാര്യക്ഷമത എന്തായും അത്യാവശ്യമായി നോക്കേണ്ടതാണ് എന്ന സംശയം കൂടാതെ പറയാം. കേവലം വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം മാത്രം നോക്കി ഡാക്ടർ കുഞ്ഞൻപിള്ളയെ ചീഫ് ഇഞ്ചിനീയരായും, മിസ്റ്റർ നടേശയ്യരെ ഡർബാർഫിസിഷനായും നിയമിക്കാൻ ആരെങ്കിലും ശിപാർശചെയ്യുന്നപക്ഷം അതിനെ കേവലം ഭ്രാന്ത് എന്നല്ലാതെ മറെറാരുപേരും കോട്ടക്കാൻ ഇല്ലാ. എന്നാൽ കാര്യക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു ഹാനി ഇല്ലാത്തവിധത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾക്കു ന്യായമായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം സംസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ അനുവദിക്കപ്പെടുന്നില്ല എന്ന് ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കു ബോധ്യപ്പെടുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ അവരുടെ ന്യായമായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും എല്ലാവർഗ്ഗക്കാരും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാലല്ലെ കാര്യക്ഷമതക്കു കുറെക്കൂടി സൌകര്യമുള്ളത്?

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): യോഗ്യതയുള്ള എല്ലാവർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും ന്യായമായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): അതു കാര്യക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു സഹായമായിരിക്കയില്ലെ?

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): വളരെ സഹായമായിരിക്കും ഗവർണ്മെൻറിന്റെ സ്വാധീനത്തിൽ ഉള്ള എല്ലാ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളും ഓരോ അവസരത്തിലും ഓരോ വർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടെ സംഖ്യയും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവും മറ്റും

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നോക്കി ശതാംശമായി വീതിച്ചു പങ്കിട്ടുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോട് എനിക്ക് അശേഷം യോജിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തി ഇല്ല. ഒരു വർഗ്ഗക്കാക്കൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഏതാനും വർഗ്ഗക്കാക്കൊ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊടുക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെടുമ്പോൾ ഗവർമ്മെന്റിനു അതിന്റെ കീഴിലുള്ള ഏതെങ്കിലും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരൊ അതിനെ അവഗണിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുന്നു എന്ന് എപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്റെ പേരിൽ കർശനമായ നടപടി നടത്തുകയും എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാരോടും സമഭാവനയായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതിന് ആവശ്യമുള്ള എല്ലാ ഏർപ്പാടുകളും ചെയ്യുകയും ചെയ്യണം. കായ്ക്ഷമത കായ്ക്ഷമത എന്നുമാത്രം പറഞ്ഞു കേവലം മത്സരപരീക്ഷ വച്ച് അതിൽ ഒന്നാമതും രണ്ടാമതും ജയിക്കുന്നവർക്കുമാത്രമേ ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടും യോജിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. പോലീസുകാൻസ്റ്റബിളും പങ്കാപ്പൂൺ അഞ്ചൽപ്പൂൺ ഇവരെ നിയമിയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു ഇംഗ്ലീഷിലൊ മലയാളത്തിലൊ വലിയ ഒരു പരീക്ഷ വച്ച് അതിൽ ജയിക്കുന്ന ആളുകളിൽനിന്നും അവരുടെ മുറ അനുസരിച്ചുമാത്രമേ ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കാവു എന്നുള്ളതിൽ അർത്ഥമില്ല എന്നാണു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളിൽ ന്യായമായിട്ടുള്ള പ്രാതിനിധ്യം എല്ലാ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്.

ഉയന്തരം ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം പന്ത്രണ്ടൊ ഇരുപതൊ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുമേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാർ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവ ഓരോന്നിലും നായർ, ബ്രാഹ്മണൻ, കത്തോലിക്കർ, ഈഴവർ, ഇങ്ങിനെ ഇരുപതു വർഗ്ഗക്കാർ തന്നെയായിരിക്കണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കാൻ ന്യായമില്ലാ. ഇരുപതുപേരിൽ ഒന്നുരണ്ടുപേർ ഒരേ വർഗ്ഗം ആയിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അബദ്ധം ഇല്ല. എന്നാൽ ഒന്നു രണ്ടു വർഗ്ഗക്കാർമാത്രം എല്ലാ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റേയും അദ്ധ്യക്ഷം വഹിക്കുന്നതിലാണു് ഈ സംശയം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു്. ഗവർമ്മെന്റു കായ്ക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു് അനുകൂലമായ വിധത്തിൽ വർഗ്ഗീയപ്രാതിനിധ്യം കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു മിസ്റ്റർ റാബിൻസൺ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതിനു് അദ്ദേഹത്തോടും ഗവർമ്മെന്റിനോടും ഞാൻ നന്ദിപറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ ആദർശം സ്ഥിരമായി വച്ചു പരിപാലിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവർമ്മെന്റിനോടു് അപേക്ഷിക്കയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): I strongly support the motion of Mr. A. J. John and I take this opportunity to draw the attention of

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[Mr. R. Padmanabhan.]

the Government to the most unjust and unfair treatment still accorded to the backward communities of the State by the authorities concerned, especially in the Revenue Department.

The policy accepted by the Government in that matter seems to be to secure adequate representation in all departments by giving preference to candidates belonging to unrepresented communities without impairing efficiency. It is also declared that the first and foremost point to be considered in the matter of appointments in public service is the maintenance of efficiency. Although this principle is sometimes abused to defeat the just claims of the backward classes, I maintain that a strict adherence to that principle is absolutely essential to the best interests of the State. Nevertheless, I submit that justice is denied in the case of the backward classes. I know the case of an Ezhava who stood first in the State in passing the Village Officer's Test four years ago and who was not given a permanent post of a Village Accountant although less efficient men of patronage are entertained. Other instances of the same nature are not wanting if one were only inclined to know about them. There is, I know, the case of an Ezhava who has passed first in the State in the Mahopadhyaya examination and who was not entertained in the service. There are several instances of this kind.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Does Mr. Padmanabhan, when he says that these cases of injustice must be avoided, mean that there must be an effective system of checkmating the possibility of doing injustice to any particular community and not that there should be provision for those communities also to do injustice?

MR. R. PADMANABHAN (*Nominated*): I only mean that the possibilities of doing injustice should be allowed no longer to exist. With these few remarks, I strongly support the motion brought forward by Mr. A. J. John.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Sir, the subject-matter of the present discussion is indeed an interesting one. I am sorry to see that the suggestions that have been brought forward by Mr. A. K. Pillai have been considered by most of the members as idealistic or Utopian, in the language of Mr. Mammen Mappillai. I fail to view the matter in that light. So far as I can understand, Mr. A. K. Pillai has suggested only things which are quite practicable. He was not advocating the question on the principle of efficiency alone. To the question that I put to him at the concluding portion of his speech, he answered that in the case of applicants possessing equal qualifications, he has no objection whatever to preference being given to persons belonging to the less represented communities. So long as he concedes such a position, I do not think that his suggestions should be considered as impracticable even under the present Travancore conditions.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I ask the member whether that concession of Mr. A. K. Pillai is consistent with the principle of communal representation?

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): It is not inconsistent.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I point out that it is inconsistent with the theory that minimum qualification should be accepted?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Yes.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Does not Mr. Joseph see that thereby we are only giving a premium on weakness and inefficiency?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I quite concede that point.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Cannot the standard of qualifications be raised?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I cannot quite understand the position that persons having minimum qualifications should be appointed if they belong to unrepresented communities. So I have to support the suggestions that have been made by Mr. A. K. Pillai though in some details I may disagree. Anyhow, the chief point to be considered in the matter of appointments in public service is the question of efficiency. I believe nobody will deny this. Of course, Mr. Kayyalam Paramesvaran Pillai was suggesting in a question put to Mr. A. K. Pillai whether it will not be proper on the part of the Government to act according to the wishes of the public if the public prefer that the principle of communal representation should apply. The Government in Travancore, if they intend to see to the real interests of the State, should not kindly submit themselves to the occasional outflow of the so-called public opinion in this State. The opinion expressed even in this House may not always represent the real voice of the vast majority of the people of the country. There might be a few interested persons in every community who may desire to introduce the principle of communal representation for objects of their own. There may be newspapers also to support their cause, but that does not mean that the people of the State *as a whole* are for the principle of communal representation.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I ask the member whether the Government have taken any referendum in the matter?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): No. Different reports may be seen in some newspapers or some representations made in the Popular Assembly or in the Legislative Council. But these should not be considered as the real opinion of all the people of Travancore.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Will the member be in a position to say how the view of the public can be got at by the Government?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): The Government can understand the general mentality and even in that light should act according to the real needs and interests of the State. They can listen to all the newspaper reports or any other reports, but after listening to all these, they must view the matter independently for themselves and see whether the agitation is justifiable or not.

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MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): How can the Government understand the real needs of the people?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Most of the officers, I believe, move freely among the people, and can understand their needs.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Do they move freely with all the people in the whole of Travancore?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I say that almost all people in one way or other are brought into connection with these officers.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): So the information of the officers should be collected?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Even after considering all these things the Government should not yield itself to the so-called public views.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Is the member aware that the principle of communal representation is accepted in the Indian National Congress?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I am not a Congress man and so I am not in a position to answer that question.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I ask the member whether he is prepared to accept the Congress ideals and the Congress arrangements?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I do not know much about the Congress.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): Is it necessary that if a member accepts one principle, he should accept all?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I am only talking about my views in the matter. The first point to be considered I said is efficiency.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Mr. Joseph has not answered my question as to whether he has any method of finding out the public opinion.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I may say that public opinion could be ascertained by means of a referendum. If it is not possible to take the opinion of each and every individual, at least the opinion of the voters to the Legislative Council may be taken.

MR. N. V. JOSEPH (*Parur*): So the expression of opinion in the newspapers also represents the public opinion?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): In very many cases, it may not be so.

MR. KAYYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): May I know whether a vote of this House represents public opinion?

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MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : I do not consider so, for the reason that the members were not elected on this particular issue.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*) : Then may I know whether we have not been wasting an hour and a half over this issue in which the view of the non-official majority is not going to represent public opinion?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : I may concede that it may be taken as a practical solution, but not otherwise. That itself may not also be correct. I do not wish that the Government should act only on that opinion. Even the majority of the non-officials may go wrong on some considerations or other.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : May I know from the member whether there is any newspaper in Travancore which reflects public opinion?

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : I do not think it is really necessary to make any remark on such a question and I am not going to answer it. It is not relevant.

To come to the question of principles of recruitment, I say that efficiency should be the first consideration, but at the same time, I am not against concessions being given to communities which are not properly represented. I say that, in cases where there are applicants with equal qualifications, the Government may fairly give preference to the applicants belonging to the unrepresented or less represented communities.

One argument that has been advanced is that these communities which are lacking in proper representation suffer by the present system. I think if the principle of communal representation is accepted and acted on, it will only give an opportunity to the members of these communities to do the same thing as is alleged to have been done by the members of the communities now represented in service. So, the present difficulty cannot be solved by resorting to that measure. Mr. Kunjitomman and it seems a few others also said that, if there was sufficient representation from the unrepresented communities, the persons belonging to those communities would not suffer as they now do. I think even then there will be the same difficulty, only the community suffering will be changing. If the Christians are now feeling the difficulty, when Christians are appointed, the Nairs may feel the difficulty. So the principle of communal representation is not the proper means of ensuring the safety and the interest of the people. The only way of preventing that is by means of taking proper steps to see that the officers behave fairly and justly to all the members. For that, we have got this Legislative Council, the Popular Assembly and the newspapers as well which are on the alert to see that the officers go about their work properly and to bring before the attention of the Government the wrongs committed by them. The acceptance of the principle of communal representation is not the means of rectifying it.

Another point that has been urged is that the principle of communal representation is based on the principle of distribution of public

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[Mr. K. I. Joseph.]

revenue as salaries to all the communities alike. I do not agree with that. Public revenue paid as salaries is not to be distributed on the basis of communal sharing. It is to be utilised in the interests of the State and for the working of the State. So, I submit that, on principle, the question of communal representation cannot in any way stand.

But then the question of expediency comes in. As a matter of expediency, under the present conditions, there should be some sort of compromise. But there should not be compromise at the sacrifice of efficiency. There is not much difficulty to harmonise this question of principle with the question of expediency. We all know that there are qualified persons belonging to communities not properly represented in the public service. Consideration may be shown to the claims of such persons, but not so as to affect the question of efficiency. The Government can show consideration by giving preference to such applicants if they have got equal qualifications with the other applicants.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, I did not want to intervene in this debate except for the way in which the motion has drifted on. The motion before the House is to point out the absence of Tahsildars from the Catholic, Mahomedan, Ezhava and other unrepresented communities. That was the motion of Mr. A J. John and I thought that Mr. Robinson gave him a crushing reply and there, I believe, the matter ought to have ended, because he said that so far as Tasildhars are concerned, there has been no direct recruitment from the non-officials, but only recruitment from the officials. He and the authorities concerned did their very best to go through the *Civil List* and find out whether there are Catholics, Mahomedans, Ezhavas or other members of the unrepresented communities who are ripe for promotion, and to their disappointment they found that there was none and that accounts for the absence of certain communities. On the other hand, he has given a definite and pointed reference to the case where an Ezhava has been appointed. The only reply to that argument can be to say "here are persons ripe for the appointment and they have not been appointed." We need not mention names, but we may challenge Mr. Robinson's statement by saying that there are certain individuals whose cases have not been considered. In the absence of that, we have been going to the abstract question as to whether communal representation is desirable or not. To my mind, it seems that it is not necessary for us to go into that question now. Many members have tabled down motions, I believe, with reference to the communal representation in the various branches of service. I believe we have had sufficient dicussion on the matter and I do not think there can be any practical solution or even a theoretical solution of the question if the matter is discussed over the floor of this House any number of years or by any number of persons. The only way to do it is, if there are qualified men and if the Government or the authorities concerned ignored their claims, to place specific instances of such cases and ask the Government

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to consider their cases. In theory, as Mr. Robinson said, we will have to provide for all the unrepresented communities and he gave specific instances where men from these communities were not available. So, with all deference to the mover, I beg to state that we might have gone on to the other subjects so that the other motions might be more usefully discussed.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Sir, I had also given notice of a motion to discuss the question of communal representation, but as the Deputy President has pointed out, the present discussion must centre round the question of the appointment of Tahsildars only. I wish to reserve my opinion about the general question raised in the course of the discussion and answer only the points touched upon by the Land Revenue Commissioner and the Deputy President as regards the appointment of Tahsildars. The answer has been given that the Government have been very anxious and they have been trying to appoint to the *cadre* of Tahsildars persons belonging to the unrepresented communities. I am very sorry that the statement that followed this expression of wish or opinion has been without a meaning. The answer of Mr. Robinson is that they turned to the *Civil List* and found nobody fit to be promoted. The Revenue Department has been therefore shut to the unrepresented communities. If therefore Mr. Robinson continues in this attitude of mind, that is unless he finds qualified persons already in the *Civil List* he would not appoint any Tahsildar, I would point out to him that it would not be possible for him to appoint any man from the unrepresented communities, because, according to him, all appointments can be made only by promotion. So, the unrepresented communities will ever remain unrepresented. This is a consequence diametrically opposed to the anxieties and wishes of the Government as expressed by Mr. Robinson. I would have liked if I had heard from him the practical method adopted by the Government to ease their anxieties. I am very sorry that he has not informed us or enlightened us as regards the methods adopted or the enquiry made by the Government in that connection. I would have been quite satisfied if one or two appointments at least had been made from among these unrepresented communities without the process of promotion from the Revenue Department only, but from other departments or even from the bar or from somewhere else. If the answer given by Mr. Robinson is probed further, we can find that he admits that Tahsildars are generally appointed from Magistrates and these are appointed from the ministerial staff of the Secretariat and the Division Cutcherries. If, therefore, I had heard from him that he has taken particular care to give preference to those unrepresented communities in the matter of the appointment of the ministerial staff of these departments, I would have been completely satisfied. But none of the two methods I have suggested now has been in any way adopted by the Government. Therefore, I wish to point out that the motion brought forward by Mr. John requires more serious consideration by the Government than has been paid to it by Mr. Robinson.

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not grasp what exactly were the points urged by Mr. T. J. Matthew regarding recruitment of Tahsildars. I did not catch the suggestion from where they should be recruited.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : I said that if the Government had promised that they would give preference to the members of the unrepresented communities as regards the appointment of the ministerial staff of the Secretariat and other departments, I would have been satisfied. Another point is that seeing that the Tahsildars are recruited from Magistrates, the Magistrates may be appointed from the bar.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Most of the members on this side of the House, except Mr. A. K. Pillai and perhaps Mr. K. I. Joseph also were supporting the principle of communal representation. As for the remarks made by Mr. A. K. Pillai, I can only agree with my friend Mr. Mammen Mappillai. As regards the ideals preached by Mr. A. K. Pillai, I think they are not applicable to the present day world. They may become applicable after some centuries when the world comes to that ideal stage. As for the opinion advocated by Mr. Joseph, he himself doubts whether he does represent the public opinion of Travancore. He further doubts whether he is voicing the opinion of the public at large. I think he was at one time supporting the principle of communal representation and after some time he was opposing that principle.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know when I supported the principle of communal representation ?

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): He was supporting the principle with some qualification.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I was supporting the principle with this qualification, namely, that between men of equal qualifications preference should be given to those belonging to unrepresented or less represented communities. I am opposed to the principle of giving preference to men with minimum qualification on the ground that they belong to backward communities.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Whatever may be the opinion of Mr. K. I. Joseph, since he himself doubts whether he is voicing the opinion of the public, I need not attach any value to his opinion. I think the Government will accept the principle and ask the Land Revenue Commissioner to pay attention to communities which are not adequately represented. If Mr. Robinson is prepared to give an assurance, I am prepared to withdraw the motion.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I think the member will be able to gather from what I have said that that is the principle upon which we are trying to recruit in the Revenue Department. We are trying to pick out persons from the least represented communities.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : Is it not possible to recruit from outside the department ?

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is not a thing upon which I could say anything now. The Government must consider it. As regards the principle, I was talking about, I have already given instructions to various officers that the principle to be adopted is to select people from those communities that are least represented in the department.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether there are Catholics among Stationary Magistrates?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say.

We do our best in the matter and I think you may rest assured that we will try to do all that is possible in the matter.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): On that assurance, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 142.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

142. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,43,180 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the discontent that is prevailing among the Tahsildars on account of their comparatively low pay and the lack of prospects for them. Sir, efficiency of service is the ideal that we aim at and we expect that from every Government servant. Unless we have a contented and hopeful class of officers, we cannot expect them to turn out sincere, good and efficient work. On a close examination of the case, it will be clear that the pay and prospects of the Tahsildar of the Travancore Revenue Department is not at all satisfactory. It is usual in the case of other departments to give a time-scale of pay to the officers. The pay of the Tahsildars fixed during the time of Dewan Mr. Sankarasubba Aiyar still continues to be the present pay. They are divided into two grades, the lower grade getting Rs. 175 and the higher grade to Rs. 200. There are 10 vacancies in the higher grade and even in these vacancies, five or six still remain unfilled. The time usually taken for an ordinary Tahsildar to work up from the second grade to the first is eight years.

PRESIDENT: May I ask whether the member is moving for an increase of the grant or for a reduction of the grant?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I am for an increase of pay.

PRESIDENT: I see the member's motion deals with the reduction of the graut and he is speaking for an increase of the grant.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I argue that the Tahsildars would do the work better if they are given a higher pay. Yesterday, we have been listening to Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyar in connection with the reduction of the pay of the Professors. I may say that most of the arguments on the side of the Government for retaining the scale of pay

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[Mr. K. K. Thomas.]

of the Professors applies with equal force to the condition of Tahsildars. The qualification of the Tahsildar is very satisfactory. Most of them are graduates in law. They are recruited after a service of more than 15 or 20 years from the Secretariat or in the lower grades of the Revenue Department. After spending about 20 years, it takes them four or five years to get a permanent place. I may in this connection refer to the instance of a few Christian Tahsildars. It is regrettable that even after the separation of Devaswoms from the Revenue Department, two Tahsildars—of whom one of them is no more—have been denied the ordinary rights. If they had remained where they were without getting into the Revenue Department, they would have become Division Assistants on a pay of Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 or Rs. 350. By the separation putting them in the Revenue Department their prospects have been materially marred. Such being the case, I would request the Government to reconsider the position and find a way to give the Tahsildars at least the time-scale. The position of the Tahsildars in Cochin and in British India may very well be pointed out as a comparison. The Tahsildar of Cochin gets about a scale of Rs. 200 to Rs. 250.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): May I know how many Tahsildars there are in Cochin?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Four or five.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): What is the area of Cochin?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Yesterday we have been asking for these figures for the same sort of argument.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Is the Cochin State bigger than the Kottayam Division or smaller than that?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): It may be about that. Comparing the pay of the officers in other departments, I may say that the pay of the Tahsildars was fixed at the time of Dewan Mr. Sankarasubba Aiyar. The Inspector of Police whose pay was only Rs. 40 is now given a scale up to Rs. 200 and the District Registrar's pay now is something like Rs. 200. But a Tahsildar whose pay was Rs. 175 at the time of Mr. Sankarasubba Aiyar is even now only the same Rs. 175.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഗവർണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ഇപ്പോൾ കൊടുത്തു വരുന്ന ശമ്പളത്തിനു യോഗ്യതയുള്ള തഹശീൽദാരന്മാരെ കിട്ടാറുണ്ടോ?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Thomas, your time is up.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I wish I may be permitted to speak a little more because the President has been kind enough to give time in the case of other members.

PRESIDENT: That was because there was more time available for

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discussion when the question was started. But now there is very little time available; so the laxity must be curtailed.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Sir, I invite the attention of the Government to the low pay given to the Tahsildars.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I have listened carefully to what Mr. K. K. Thomas has said and I have noted what he has said. I may at this stage say that the Tahsildars have submitted a memorial to the Government and the Government have aked me to report on all the points mentioned in the memorial. The matter will be carefully considered. So, as the matter is under report and consideration, I hope Mr. K. K. Thomas will withdraw his motion.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): In the light of the assurance given by Mr. Robinson, I am prepared to withdraw my motion.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): I object to his withdrawal. ഞാൻ ശ്രീപാക്ക മേൽ ശമ്പളമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ എനിക്ക അനുകൂല അഭിപ്രായമില്ല.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): I beg to oppose the motion of Mr. K. K. Thomas.

PRESIDENT: Let us ascertain the views of the House on the withdrawal of the motion. Mr. K. K. Thomas asks permission to withdraw his motion, but Mr. C. P. Tarakan has objected to the withdrawal. Now we have to get the views of the House on these points.

The question whether Mr. K. K. Thomas had the leave of the House to withdraw his motion was put to the vote and carried.

Motions 143 and 144.

The following motions were deemed not to have been moved as the members were absent.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI:

143. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,43,180 for Taluk Cutcherries by Rs. 10.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI:

144. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,43,180 for Taluk Cutcherries by Rs. 100.

I D. PROVERTHI CUTCHERRIES.

Motion 145.

The following motion was not moved.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:

145. To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,538 for three Revenue Inspectors.

Motions 146 and 147.

The following motions were deemed not to have been moved as the member was absent.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

146. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 94,416 for Proverthikars by Rs. 10.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

147. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,500 for rents by Rs. 10.

Motion 148.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I beg to move the following motion:

148. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,600 for Proverthi Cutcherries by Re. 1.

I must draw the attention of the House to the necessity for recasting or remodelling the Waste Lands Rules, dated the 3rd February 1924. In the general discussion of the budget, I had occasion to refer to the hardships experienced by the people by the operation of Rule No. 6 of the Waste Lands Rules.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. I fail to understand how the working of the Waste Lands Rules can be considered by means of a motion directed against the allotment for Proverthi Cutcherries.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): The rules are worked by *Proverthikars.*

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): No doubt, he might discuss the working of the Proverthi Cutcherries, but not the rules.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There is a motion No. 158 which refers to Rule No. 6 of the Revised Waste Lands Rules.

MR. KAYYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): The motion relates to Proverthi Cutcherries. I think Mr. K. K. Thomas may speak under that motion about the policy adopted by Proverthikars relating to the working of the particular rule, but not to the rules as a whole. In the course of the discussion, he may refer to the rules and say whether the Proverthikars are acting up to the rules or not. If the member proposes to make any remarks for amending of the rules, it must come under another motion.

PRESIDENT: You may speak within those limits.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I do not say that the rules should be altered. I may bring to the notice of the House the hardships experienced by the people.

MR. KAYYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): So far as it relates to the work done by Proverthikars.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Yes. I will speak within these limits. Sir, next to paddy and cocoanut cultivation, the cultivation of tea is the only safe investment for the Travancore cultivator. Another point is about the cultivation of tea. Though the cultivation of tea is very costly, judging by the experience of Ceylon, tea cultivation is possible in small areas. Our workmen plant one or two acres and get tea dried by an ordinary process so that it is of some advantage to the cultivator. Now, in Travancore, the total area of land comes to about 7,600 square miles. Of these 2,400 square miles are reserved forest and the rest of the land which is about 2,000 square miles is not available for cultivation.

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The balance remaining isthe cultivable portion available to Travancoreans. Of these, again, 7000 acres are taken up by European planters for cultivation so that the Travancoreans have only about 2000 square miles. The density of population in Travancore is much greater than in European countries. Looking ahead, I would advise the Government to reserve as much land as possible for Travancoreans, to cultivate. The rule says :—

"On receipt of an application under Rule 2, the Peishkar or the Commissioner of the Division shall ascertain whether the lot applied for is available for sale. He should also enquire into the antecedents and financial position of the applicant and satisfy himself that the application is *bona fide*, that it comes from a person of competence and that it is not made for purposes of speculation. He should then forward the application along with his views thereon to the Land Revenue Commissioner. His report should clearly state the result of his enquiry on the points mentioned in this rule".

On the strength of a G. O. issued by the Government, the authorities have been asking the adjoining European planters when a Travancorean applies for a plot of land whether he wants that land even though he has over 2,000 acres with him and even though there are well-marked permanent boundaries.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): May I ask whether the member only refers to European owners or any adjoining estate owner?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Any owner.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): What about Mr. P. John of Kottayam?

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): There is no land near his estate.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have got the papers here showing that an application for land adjoining his estate was referred to him.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): May I know whether this is relevant?

PRESIDENT: Mr. Thomas, much of what you say is irrelevant. You must speak on the conduct of Proverthikars. But you are speaking on Government Rules and Regulations.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): With regard to these rules, when the adjoining estate owner is asked even though he has over 2000 acres with him, he is having his first refusal. So, that power should be taken away and the adjoining estate owner need not be asked, provided—

PRESIDENT: You may speak about the conduct of the Proverthicars or about Proverthi cutcherries; what you are saying has nothing to do with your motion.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): If I am interrupted I will not be able to come to it.

PRESIDENT: It is more or less a wrong classification on your part.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): There are other portions of the rules which are also working hardship. The directions given to the Proverthikars are not clear enough. That is why Proverthikars should be asked to give some sort of consideration to the Travancorean applicant and not to allow him to come into competition with the European applicant who has large resources at his back.

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, the motion is really about the Pakuthi Cutcherries.

PRESIDENT: You need not try to answer the irrelevant portions of the member's speech. You need speak only relevancies.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The Proverthikar has nothing to do with the Waste Lands Rules. It rests with the Tahsildar and the Commissioner of Devicolam who have to make a personal inspection. I don't think the other points are relevant. Mr. Thomas has slightly misunderstood the matters. I have got papers here where references were made to Travancore estate owners about applications for adjoining lands.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether the Proverthikar has any control over the disposal of waste lands?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): None whatever. It rests with the Government entirely. So I do not think the motion was in order.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know whether he has got to send a report?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is the Proverthikar who identifies and prepares a sketch. The sketch is not generally done to scale, because it is a rough sketch. After identifying the land, the Tahsildar has to see the land and make a report to the Commissioner, Devicolam. Then the re port is sent on to the Land Revenue Commissioner who sends it to the Government and they sanction it. If there are mistakes anywhere, they are set right during these steps or by the Government eventually. I do not think any hardship or mistake can occur. It goes through so many stages and it has to be disposed of by the Government. Under these circumstances, I would ask Mr. Thomas to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn and meet at a quarter to 3.

The Council rose for lunch at 2 P.M. and reassembled at 2-50 P.M.

Motion 149.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): I beg to move the following motion:—

149. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,600 for Proverthi Cutcherries by Rs. 5.

My object in moving the motion is to urge on the Government the absolute necessity for finding out ways or methods of appointing a proportionate number of Proverthikars and Accountants from unrepresented communities. As the whole House knows, even after the separation of Devaswoms from the Land Revenue Department, the Land Revenue Department did not give any attention at all in the matter of communal representation.

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The Proverthikar of a village is an important officer and people have to deal with him often. If Proverthikars are taken from one or two communities alone, I do not know what will be the condition of the other communities, especially when most of them are inclined to do some favour or other to members of their own community. For instance, I do not think it necessary to go a long way. In the matter of preparing electoral rolls, the Proverthikar is the chief agent and he prepares it according to his whims and fancies. So is the case in the matter of recommending registry of *puduval* lands. From the caste-war statement given to question No. 76, it could be seen that out of the 405 Proverthikars in the State, 46 are Brahmins, 300 are Nairs, 39 Vellalas, 11 other Hindus, 3 Christians, and 4 other classes. From these figures, it could be seen that there is not a single Proverthikar from the Ezhavas and Mahomedans and only 3 from 12 lakhs of Christians. I therefore bring before the attention of the Government the glaring injustice done to Catholics, other Christians, Ezhavas, Mahomedans and other communities. I therefore press the motion for the consideration of the House. I may also add that the Land Revenue Commissioner was not in a position to give me an explanation as he did in the case of the Tahsildars, in the matter of recruitment of Proverthikars and accountants. I do not think it necessary to recruit them from the service itself. Accountants are recruited from outside and they need pass only the Account Test. So, it is not at all difficult to recruit accountants direct. With these words, I move the motion for the consideration of the House.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I am quite in sympathy with what Mr. John said. Since the separation of the Devaswoms from the Land Revenue Department, it has been the policy to appoint men from all communities. But the objection is that we cannot appoint Proverthikars straight off. A Proverthikar has to be an Accountant for 8 or 9 years; and then he goes up as Proverthikar generally in the order of seniority. The question of seniority and efficiency is all that is considered in the appointment of Proverthikars. After the Devaswom separation we had a retrenchment, and there was a great deal of reduction of appointments. For a long time we were not able to do any outside recruitment because we had a lot of supernumeraries and that took about a year for absorption. Since then, as far as possible, we have been giving instructions that recruitment must be from all communities. In fact, the letters that I have written clearly state this. If members of this House have seen them, probably—

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I ask Mr. Robinson how the subordinate officers are obeying the orders of the Land Revenue Commissioner?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): As I said, the Proverthikars have to be recruited from Accountants; they cannot be appointed straight off. The Proverthikar first of all starts as an Accountant. I think there are three Christian Proverthikars in the State and they were appointed in the Devicolam Division

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[Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.]

from the ranks of Accountants. In Devicolam, these men were recruited before the Devaswom separation as there were no Devaswoms there. A number of Proverthikars from Devicolam have since risen as clerks. In answer to an interpellation, the number of Christian Proverthikars has been given. That relates to the Devicolam Division. It is the only place where a man could be a Proverthikar without being an Accountant. Before the separation of Devaswoms, they recruited only caste-Hindus as Accountants in other places. I am not certain of this statement because I came here only after the separation. Now the Tahsildars are recruiting the Accountants from all communities.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*) : May I know from Mr. Robinson whether the Division Peishkars appoint these men or the Tahsildars?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : The appointment of Accountants is made by Tahsildars. Of course, the Dewan Peishkars have a power to point out anybody for being appointed ; but for the sake of discipline, they do not interfere with the power of the Tahsildars. But a new difficulty has arisen. A lot of men has been disbanded from the Survey and Land Records Departments and now they are without employment. Questions have been asked in this House about giving those men employment and we have issued orders to the officers that they must employ those men first until they have all been employed. There has been a certain difficulty with regard to this. Sometimes a Tahsildar has not appointed as accountant one who has thus been disbanded. He might have thought that all the supernumeraries have been absorbed. To obviate this difficulty, a reference is now going to the Government as to whether the appointments in future should not be by the Dewan Peishkars until all the Land Records accountants and Survey accountants have been absorbed. I am afraid that, among the disbanded men, there will be very few Christians. But it is only fair that they should be absorbed before new men are appointed. That may restrict the recruitment from outside for some time. But certainly, the orders are that the accountants should be recruited from all communities and that preference should be given to the least represented communities. These are the orders and I hope they will be carried out. I have not got figures with me about the number of accountants and the community to which they belong. I cannot say whether men are appointed in sufficient numbers from other communities according to the applications. But statements are regularly sent to the Government and are being scrutinised by them. I agree with Mr. John that the accountants should be recruited from all communities. But their promotions as Proverthikars should be fixed by seniority. If it is not done now, it should be done. Wherever appeals come in that so and so has been wrongly appointed, we set right the mistake and cancel the appointments if wrong. Under these conditions, I hope Mr. John will withdraw the motion.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : May I know from Mr. Robinson how many men from the Ezhavas, Mahomedans, etc., were appointed after the Devaswom separation?

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not got the figures.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): May I know whether the Peishkars keep a register to enter the number of applications from these communities?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think that they keep an application register separately, but every petition for appointment is registered in a petition register.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): Is it possible to make out the number of applications from that register?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes. But the applications for Accountants' posts should be sent to the Tahsildar; so it is not entered in the register kept by the Peishkar. When the Dewan Peishkar receives an application, he forwards it to the Tahsildar.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Is it not desirable that a separate register for applications for appointments be kept rather than have them along with the miscellaneous petitions?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That is very nice, but I think Mr. Thomas will concede that work is increasing in every office and we never get any extra staff to cope with the increasing work. I am against keeping more registers, and against more registers being added on to the work of the *pakuthi* staff. Every year, different branches of work are added on to them, for example, birth statistics, markets, etc. I think for the purpose o any information called for from this House, it can be easily gathered from the petition register I referred to. We cannot always say to what community a person belongs because the applicants do not always state that. An applicant simply asks for an appointment and signs his name. Sometime ago, we were advertising for some appointments—I do not remember which. I know in two cases two Brahmins applied. They did not put *Aiyar* after their names. I do not know why. We appointed one of them thinking he was from one of the unrepresented communities—Mr. Ramakrishnan. The same is the case with regard to the Ezhava community and the Christian community.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): From the statistics furnished, we find there are three Christian Proverthikars. May I know whether they are recruited directly or promoted from the Accountants?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Promoted from the Accountants' grade. None of them was appointed straight off.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): By virtue of seniority?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, unless a man is passed over for bad work. That is what we have been doing. We take the senior man and he is passed over if he does bad work and we promote the man who is next to him and who is doing good work.

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MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): What will be the period of service that he has to put in before he becomes a Proverthikar?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It may vary in different taluks. In some taluks there will be young Proverthikars and, until they die or retire, there may not be any vacancy.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Is there any possibility of direct recruitment?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): As Proverthikar?

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Yes. Will the Government consider it possible to have direct recruitment, not from the service, of persons who are qualified, as proverthikars?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): That will be a dangerous policy. First of all, it will be dangerous because the man who has had no actual experience in *pakuthi* work, the survey of lands, identification of lands, etc., should not be appointed as Proverthikar.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Supposing he has all those qualifications?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): He must have some training. Then the question arises, are we to ignore the men who are in service and take in men from outside? That is the question. We have been discussing the case of Tahsildars and members were saying that communal representation should be taken into consideration in considering promotions. Proverthikars are promoted from the rank of Accountants.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Are there Mahomedan or Ezhava Proverthikars?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): From the answer to the interpellation the member will find that there are no Proverthikars.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Are there Mahomedan or Ezhava applicants?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not see why there should not have been.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): If there are no Mahomedan or Ezhava accountants and we appoint them only now, will it not take seven or eight years for them to become Proverthikars?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Unless people die earlier. Under these circumstances, I hope Mr. John will withdraw his motion.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Sir, I wish to speak a few words on this motion. The question of communal representation has been discussed at some length by some of the members

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on a previous motion. The policy of appointing persons from unrepresented communities when there are applicants from unrepresented communities has been opposed on the ground that that will be detrimental to the interests of the State. I fail to see how it can affect the interests of the State when the applicants from unrepresented communities are qualified. When the Government prescribed certain qualifications for appointments, it has to be taken for granted that persons possessing those qualifications will be able to conduct the business of the office properly. As regards efficiency, we cannot know by sight whether a man is more efficient than another, when both have the same academical qualifications. In the case of Accountants no high academical qualifications are necessary. We are now at the lowest grade of appointments in the Land Revenue Department. When the question of Tahsildars came up, it was urged from the Government side that Tahsildars are generally appointed by promotions from the cadre of Magistrates. As regards Accountants, the Government need not go to any other department; recruitment is made from outside. I urge that at least in the case of Accountants, the Government must be able to see that their intentions and instructions are strictly followed by the subordinate officers of Government. Unless a firm policy is followed in this matter, as I have been suggesting by my questions to Mr. Robinson, we will not be able to see even a Proverthikar from such populous communities as the Ezhava community and the Mahomedan community, in the near future. I do not say that it will be a panacea for all the evils of the State to appoint one Ezhava or Mahomedan to the ranks of Proverthikars of the State. But at least the prospect of realising that it is possible for the Ezhavas and Mahomedans and other unrepresented communities to be appointed to the Revenue Department is itself a consoling fact. In my view, strict adherence to the principle of communal representation is not only not detrimental to the interests of the State, but it will conduce to the happiness of the people of the State. It is well-known, Sir, that politics in Travancore centre round appointments; and on this question of appointment, there is, and there has been, communal tension and communal feeling. When certain unrepresented communities urge their claims before Government, and when these are not accepted, or are opposed, certainly it is but right that these communities must feel aggrieved. If therefore the Government pass a definite rule that at least in the case of initial appointments unrepresented communities will be given preference, that in my view will put an end to all communal tensions. Then it will be realised by all the communities that we need not in any way fight about the matter. There are definite rules which the Government will follow and the communities need not raise any hubbub or fight with other communities for the realisation of their object. It will not be denied that the peace of a State will be conducive to its happiness. One of the primary conditions for the progress of a State is that, first of all, there must be peace within. I believe Government will take stock of this matter and see at least that appointments to be made from outside will be given to unrepresented communities when there are applicants from among the members of those

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[Mr. T. J. Matthew.]

communities. There has been a suggestion from one of the members that the Government in a moment of weakness acceded to the clamour of the unrepresented communities. I cannot understand how it was a matter of weakness. This is a principle that has been accepted at least for the last twenty or twenty-five years and there has not been any complaint against the action of Government in the matter. No doubt, the word 'efficiency' is a fine term, but when there are persons having the same qualifications, it must not be left, I strongly submit, to the whims and fancies of the heads of departments to find any particular efficiency in any particular applicant. The ideal state depicted by Mr. A. K. Pillai by strictly following a non-communal principle and making appointments only on the basis of efficiency is fraught with evil consequences to certain communities and ultimately to the country. What I have to say with regard to that is that when there are persons having the same academical qualifications, no other considerations of efficiency must weigh with the Government. With these words, I support the motion of Mr. John.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, during the discussion on the previous motion, it was pointed out by several members on this side of the House that the Revenue Department is one of the most important departments of the State and that the village officer is the last link of that system. So unless a fair representation is ensured in respect of this department, I think the various communities in the State will not feel satisfied with existing arrangements. We find that after the separation of the Devaswoms from the Revenue Department, four years ago, a small number of Accountants has been appointed from unrepresented communities. Mr. Robinson told us that it would take a very large number of years before one of these people is likely to be promoted as a Proverthikar. At present, I find that there are no Ezhava Proverthikars and I may say that it would take probably 8 or 10 years to see a single Proverthikar from the Ezhava community even if an Ezhava Accountant is recruited now. Therefore, if the Government would only recruit Proverthikars from Accountants, I submit that it is a contingency which we cannot contemplate with satisfaction or contentment. I would therefore request the Government to see whether it would not be possible to have some direct recruitment from outside in the cadre of Proverthikars. Mr. Robinson said that a certain amount of practice and experience of the work is absolutely necessary for a Proverthikar and therefore no recruitment from outside would be justifiable. In my opinion, I think it is perfectly possible. Higher educational qualification may be laid down and the Village Test and the Survey Test might be prescribed as qualifications absolutely necessary for the post and persons from the unrepresented communities who have such qualifications may first be appointed on probation for a period of three or six months and then directly appointed as Proverthikars. Unless some such arrangement is made by the Government, it is not possible in the ordinary course of things for an Accountant to become a Proverthikar for a period of 8 or 10 years. Under these circumstances

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it is not absolutely necessary strictly to accept the principle of the system that is now being followed. I urge these points for the consideration of the Government and the Land Revenue Commissioner and, with these observations, I support the motion.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഞാൻ മിസ്റ്റർ. എ. ജെ. ജാണിന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. രാജ്യത്തു ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ നേക്കും ഗുണകരമായോ ദോഷകരമായോ അധികാരം ചെലുത്തുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരിൽവച്ച് ഏറ്റവും പ്രാധാന്യമുള്ളവർ പാവ്ത്യക്കാരന്മാരാണു്. അവരുടെ ശമ്പളവും അധികാരവും എല്ലാം ഏതു തരത്തിലുള്ളതും എത്രതന്നെ പരിമിതവുമായിരുന്നാലും അവരുടെ പ്രവൃത്തി ബഹുജനങ്ങളെ സാരമായി ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഒന്നാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇക്കാലസ്ഥിതിക്കു നിവൃത്തിയുള്ളിടത്തോളം എല്ലാവഗ്ഗത്തിലും നിന്നു പാവ്ത്യകാരന്മാരെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതു ജനക്ഷേമത്തിനു വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. അതു് എക്കാലവും ആവശ്യമാണു. ഇപ്പോൾ അത്യാവശ്യവുമാണു്.

റവന്യൂ ദേവസ്വം വിഭജനം കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾ നാലു കൊല്ലമായി എങ്കിലും അനുഭവത്തിൽ റവന്യൂ ദേവസ്വം വിഭജനം നടക്കുന്നതിനു മുമ്പു് ഏതു മാതിരിയിരുന്നോ അതു മാതിരി തന്നെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു അവണ്ണക്കും അഹിന്ദുക്കൾക്കും പ്രവേശനമില്ലാത്ത ഒന്നായി തന്നെയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ ഉപരിസ്ഥാനത്തു പ്രവേശനം ലഭിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിലും പാവ്ത്യകാരന്മാരുടേയും താലൂക്കുകൾക്കുകളുടെയും ഇടയിൽ വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം പ്രവേശനം ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്ത വഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ഒരു വിധം മറ്റു വഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടെ അടിമത്വം അനുഭവിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണെന്നു പറയാം. റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ മേലാൽ ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ഒഴിവുകളിൽ, അതായതു പാവ്ത്യക്കാർ, അക്കൗണ്ടൻറന്മാർ, താലൂക്കുകളിലെയും ഡിവിഷനുകളിലെയും ക്ലർക്കുകൾ തുടങ്ങിയുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളിൽ, പ്രവേശനം ലഭിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്ത വഗ്ഗങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും നിയമിക്കാൻ വേണ്ട ഖണ്ഡിതമായ വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്തു നടത്തിക്കേണ്ടതു് ഏറ്റവും അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കമ്മിഷണരുടെ ഭരണകാലം മുതൽക്കു ന്യായമായ പ്രവേശനം മറ്റു വഗ്ഗക്കാർക്കും ലഭിക്കുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചിരുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഫലം അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. അതു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ തെറ്റുകൊണ്ടാണെന്നു ഞാൻ ഖണ്ഡിച്ചു പറയുന്നില്ല. കാരണം എന്തായാലും കായ്യം പരിതാപകരമായിരിക്കുന്നു. തിങ്കളാഴ്ച മിസ്റ്റർ. എ. ജെ. ജോണിന്റെ ചോദ്യത്തിനു തന്ന മറുപടിയിലെ പട്ടികയിൽ ൪൦൪ പാവ്ത്യകാരന്മാരുള്ളതിൽ ൧൨ ലക്ഷത്തോളം വരുന്ന ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളിൽ നി

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

ന്നും നു പേരാണ് കാണുന്നത്. സാധാരണ ഗവർണ്മെൻറു മറുപടി തരാറുള്ളതു പോലെ ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളിൽ ഉള്ള പല വർഗ്ഗക്കാരെ വെവ്വേറെ തിരിച്ച് ഈ പട്ടികയിൽ കാണിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഈ ര ാ ള-ൽ കത്തോലിക്കർ എത്രയുണ്ടെന്നു തിരിച്ചറിയാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMPUTIRI (*Jennies*): നമ്പൂരിമാരെ കാണുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) ബ്രാഹ്മണർ എന്നേ കാണുന്നുള്ളൂ.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMPUTIRI (*Jennies*): നമ്പൂരിമാർ എന്നു കാണുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): നമ്പൂരിമാർ ഇല്ല, ഈഴവർ ഇല്ല.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMPUTIRI (*Jennies*): ഭട്ടതിരിയെ കാണുന്നുണ്ടോ? പോററിയുണ്ടോ? എന്ത്രാൻ ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): ഇല്ല. ഉള്ളതെല്ലാം ഇപ്പോൾ വായിച്ചേക്കാം. ബ്രാഹ്മണർ, നായന്മാർ, വെള്ളാളർ, മറുഹിന്ദുക്കൾ, ക്രസ്ത്യാനികൾ. ഇതു സാധാരണ തരാറുള്ള പട്ടിക പോലെയല്ല. ഹിന്ദുക്കളിൽ ബ്രാഹ്മണർ, നായന്മാർ, വെള്ളാളർ എന്നെല്ലാം കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളിൽ എല്ലാം ചേർത്തു ക്രസ്ത്യാനികൾ എന്ന മാത്രമേയുള്ളൂ. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു ഹിന്ദുക്കൾ എന്നൊരു ക്ലാസ്സായിട്ട് എഴുതിയാൽ മതിയായിരുന്നു. കത്തോലിക്കർ തന്നെ ഈഴവർ, നായന്മാർ എന്നിവരിലിയവർഗ്ഗങ്ങളുടെ സംഖ്യയായ ന്യൂനപക്ഷത്തിൽ ശിഷ്ടത്തോളം ഉണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ ഹിന്ദുക്കളെ തരം തിരിച്ചു എഴുതിയിരിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ ന്യായവും അവകാശവും മറു ക്രസ്ത്യാനികളിൽ നിന്നും കത്തോലിക്കരെ തരം തിരിച്ചെഴുതുന്നതിനുണ്ട്. ഗവർണ്മെൻറു അങ്ങിനെയാണു ചെയ്യുവരുന്നതു്. ഇതിലെന്തോ ഗവർണ്മെൻറിനു പിശകു പററിയിരിക്കണം. (ചിരി.)

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): മുന്നു ക്രസ്ത്യൻ പാവ്ത്യകാരന്മാർ ഉണ്ടെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു് റവന്യൂ ദേവസ്വം വിഭജനത്തിനു ശേഷമാണെന്നുമെന്നുക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): അതു തിരിച്ചു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. ഇതിൽ ഈഴവർ എത്രയുണ്ടെന്നോ മഹമ്മദീയർ എത്രയുണ്ടെന്നോ കാണുന്നില്ല. പാവ്ത്യകാരന്മാരിൽ ആ വർഗ്ഗക്കാർ ഇല്ലായിരിക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ ഈഴവനായ ഒരാളാണെന്നു വേണം പറയുവാൻ. ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള ഒരു അസമത-

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അദ്ദേഹം ആഭ്യക്ഷം വഹിക്കുന്ന ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും നിലനില്ക്കുന്നില്ലാ എന്നു ഓർക്കുമ്പോൾ വളരെ സങ്കടം തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്. അത് അദ്ദേഹം തിരുത്തിയാലും കൊള്ളാം, കീഴ്ദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ തിരുത്തിയാലും കൊള്ളാം, ഏതായാലും ഉടനേ ഗവർമ്മെൻറു തിരുത്തിക്കണം. അഹിന്ദുക്കളെയും അവർണ്ണഹിന്ദുക്കളെയും വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം നിയമിച്ചേ തീരു.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMPUTIRI (*Jennies*): സവർണ്ണരിൽ ഉദ്ദ്യോഗം ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കു കൊടുക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെ ?

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): കൊടുക്കാം വിരോധമില്ല. മലയാള ബ്രാഹ്മണരും മറും പാവ്വത്യകാരന്മാരായിട്ടുവരാൻ അധികം തയാറുണ്ടായിരിക്കയില്ല എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചതു്. അതു കൊണ്ടാണ് അവരുടെപേർപറയാത്തതു്. അങ്ങിനെയല്ലാം പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ലയോ അവർക്കെല്ലാം കൊടുക്കണം അതാണു ന്യായം.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Mr. Robinson has accepted the general principle that members of the unrepresented communities should be given preference in the matter of recruitment of Proverthikars. Now we are concerned with the proportion of unrepresented communities in the grade of Proverthikars. Mr. Robinson has explained to us the difficulty of having Proverthikars from these unrepresented communities, because as a rule they are made by promotion. We find that there are 405 Proverthikars for the whole State and of these only three are Christians and there is none from the other unrepresented communities. According to the statement of the Commissioner himself, it would take at least eight years for an Accountant to become a Proverthikar. So even supposing the Government have appointed a large number of Accountants from unrepresented communities, it would take more than eight years before any appreciable improvement in the proportion of unrepresented communities in the grade of Proverthikars is effected. Therefore, what I would submit for the consideration of the authorities is that, unless the Government find out some means whereby the Proverthikars could be recruited from these unrepresented communities, it would not be possible to remedy this state of affairs within a reasonable time. As my friend Mr. Kumaran suggested, it is not impossible for the Government to devise some means whereby English School Leaving Certificate holders may be trained in survey and recruited direct to the grade of Proverthikars. At first they may be appointed as probationers and after some months' service they may be promoted as Proverthikars. In order to remedy this longstanding and widespread evil, I would request the Government to take some such steps. So long as the Government say that recruitment of Proverthikars cannot be made direct, but only by promotion, and that they are anxious to see that the inequalities are removed, I say that it can be considered only as an expression of sympathy which is not intended to be carried out in practice. We are told that the Proverthikars are now appointed from the ranks of Accountants and if you look at the way in which they are appointed, we find

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[Mr. C. P. Thomas.]

that there is no intention to satisfy the unrepresented communities. The Land Revenue Commissioner has not been able to place before us any statistics with regard to the number of appointments made from these unrepresented communities after the separation of the Devaswoms from the Revenue Department. I fear that if these statistics were placed before us we shall not find that any appreciable improvement has been made in the matter of appointing members of unrepresented communities. Sir, we find that, time after time, the statements placed on the table of this House with regard to recruitment from a communal standpoint show most unsatisfactory figures. Instructions have been issued by the Government again and again to heads of departments that communal representation should be taken into account. But we fear that the directions of the Government in this matter are purposely ignored by the officers. I think the only reason for that is that whatever they might do, they would get only a very mild remark about their action and that they have nothing more to fear. But for that we cannot understand why year after year these statements should reveal such an undesirable state of affairs. So I would request the Government that they may be pleased to take some steps whereby their officers who do not accept the policy of the Government and carry it out may be made to do so. With these remarks, I support the motion.

MR. PAUL DANIEL *(Nominated)*: Sir, the Proverthi Cutcheries are centres of very great influence notwithstanding the humble appearance of many of the buildings in which they are housed and the meagre furniture with which they are furnished. The Proverthikars in the south are ordinarily called *Athikaries*, men of power and those who know of the duties devolving upon the Proverthikars cannot but accept this as the proper name by which this officer should always be called. The nature of the duties that he has to perform is such that he cannot but wield so much power though his pay is comparatively small and the position that he occupies is perhaps low. I must say that almost every duty that is required of him invests him with a large amount of power.

Taking, in the, first place, the preparation of the voters' list, it confers upon him an amount of power which perhaps may not be obvious on the face of it. But when the voters' list was prepared for the first time, that is soon after the reform of the Legislative Council took place, the amount of power that he could wield was most clearly demonstrated. In one pakuthi the Proverthikar omitted the names of over one thousand eligible voters. It was so glaring that the matter had to be taken up to the Dewan of the State at the time. In fact, the head-man of a particular community found that his name had been omitted though he paid an annual tax of about Rs. 1,000. The man unfortunately not knowing the thing went into the polling station, where I was at that time, and he was told to his great shame to clear out of the room, because his name had not been included in the list. Even at the last election of members to this Council, these defects had not been completely removed. Sir, It is one of the duties which confers upon him a very great power.

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Another thing giving him much power is that he is the official responsible for the issue of *pattas* and I should think many of the members here know that no *patta* passes from the hand of the Proverthikar to the real holder until he is gratified in some way or other or as it is generally called a fee is paid to him. Then again, when applications for registry of *puduval* lands are made, he is in virtue an all powerful officer so far as that matter is concerned. The officers above him base their action on the recommendation that he makes or the information that he supplies to those officers. Registry depends practically upon Proverthikars. Therefore, I repeat that though he is a low-paid officer and though his status in public service is low, he is wielding a power far above his position and pay. I would therefore strongly urge upon the attention of the Government to devise some means by which these centres of power are distributed to the unrepresented communities and not to be confined to some particular community, making it a close preserve for those communities who have been occupying and appropriating that position. In my opinion, other communities should also be given an opportunity, so that the power pertaining to this office may also be vested in them.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): May I ask one question? Is Mr. Daniel in favour of recruiting Proverthikars direct from outside?

MR. PAUL DANIEL (*Nominated*): Yes, if they are qualified. The experience that the Accountant gains before he is made a Proverthikar, I think, can be dispensed with if qualified men, men who have passed the required tests, volunteer to become Proverthikars.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Does he not think that direct recruitment will be barring the promotion of senior men who have been working for a number of years as Accountants with the hope that they would one day be promoted as Proverthikars?

MR. PAUL DANIEL (*Nominated*): I do not say that their claims should be overlooked. I only say that this should be accepted as the policy of the Government so that, in future, the same remarks may not be repeated.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Does not Mr. Daniel think that, when High Court Judges and District Judges are directly recruited from the bar, that would be barring the claims of the senior District Munsiffs already in service, and does he think there is any difference between that and the case of the senior Accountants whose claims, Mr. Robinson says, would be barred by direct recruitment of Proverthikars?

MR. PAUL DANIEL (*Nominated*): Proverthikars can be directly recruited provided they have the prescribed qualifications. If there are men who have long been in service, in their cases, I think it will be hard if their claims due to their long service – and perhaps good service—are overlooked.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Does he think that the appointment of non-Hindus and non-caste Hindus as Proverthikars will remedy the evils mentioned by him?

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MR. PAUL DANIEL (*Nominated*) : Oh yes, to a great extent.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*) : Sir, the Land Revenue Commissioner seems to be obsessed with the possibility of the injustice involved in the direct recruitment of Proverthikars. I think that is a very fallacious argument. No doubt, it can be made to appear plausible. But when closely analysed, it entirely fails to carry any weight as an argument. The direct recruitment of lawyers as Judges—whether as District Judges or as High Court Judges—might be said to involve injustice to the senior District Munsiffs. Again, by means of competitive examination, whether for the I. C. S., the I. E. S., etc., persons who are young and who have had no experience in departmental work are placed all on a sudden at a certain high level in the service over the heads of so many persons, who might have grown grey in service. No doubt, this is likely to cause some kind of heart-burning which is inevitable. Therefore, provided the difficulty in regard to want of experience could be overcome, the heart-burning of the senior Accountants does not at all, in my opinion, deserve to be brought forward as an argument against direct recruitment. I am sure it will be admitted by all that though the Proverthikars do not enjoy very high salary, they are very influential. Most people are living in villages, and every one of us has something or other to do with these Proverthikars As has been pointed out already, since the preparation of the voters' lists is in the hands of these Proverthikars, this Council itself is in a way shaped by them. Therefore, the importance of these Proverthikars can never be under-rated. This is true also of the whole village account staff. Such being the case, it must be conceded that all important communities must have a fair representation in the *pakuthi* staff. If Mr. Robinson's theory of avoiding the heart-burning of the senior accountants is consistently carried out, we will have to wait till the Greek Calends for a member of the unrepresented communities to become a Proverthikar.

In regard to the want of experience of the direct recruits, I would suggest that a number of probationers belonging to the several unrepresented communities should be taken on the strength of adequate examination qualification—for instance, men who have passed the School Final Examination. Such probationers should be given special training in survey and other necessary subjects. If necessary, they might be employed in the taluk offices for five or six months or with other Proverthikars in order that they might study the work in the *pakuthies*. After such training, they could be permanently stationed in any *pakuthi*. There is no harm in these people being trained like the Police Inspectors or the Surveyors. If necessary, even a special chool may be opened for a few years and these probationers may be trained there. We have got the Forest Guards' School for instance. After five or six months' training, they may be permanently stationed in independent places.

As to the argument that, if the principle of direct recruitment as Proverthikars is accepted, many of the Proverthikars will be new to the *pakuthies* and will not therefore be in a position to carry on the work

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satisfactorily, I do not think that even that argument carries any weight because Proverthikars are even now being freely transferred from one *pakuthi* to another. Once they know the technique of the department, I do not think there will be any difficulty for them to study the conditions of the particular *pakuthies* in which they are posted. Therefore, if it is admitted that all communities should be given a fair share in the *pakuthi* staff as well as in the taluk and Division staff, I think there is no harm in making some kind of direct recruitment, provided proper safeguards in the way suggested by me or in any other way that would suggest itself to the Government or to the Revenue Commissioner, are provided. The argument that it will be a great injustice to the senior men who are already in the service ought not to carry much weight, because such cases are common in various other departments also.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Mr. Robinson seems to be very anxious to support the present principle of recruitment to the Land Revenue Department and of promotion therein, in the interests of the men already in the service ; and he is not therefore in favour of direct recruitment even to the Proverthikar's *cadre*. In the light of the agitation for communal representation in the Proverthikar's *cadre*, I think it is necessary that direct recruitment should be made. As regards the claims of the Accountants, I think it will be advisable to set apart a fixed percentage of these posts to the senior Accountants and the major portion—about 75 per cent. for instance— may be reserved for direct recruitment. As Mr. Mammen Mappillai has pointed out, I think efficiency may well be safeguarded by giving some special training to these persons who may be directly recruited as probationers.

As regards another point raised by Mr. Mammen Mappillai, *viz*, the transfer of Proverthikars, I think it is always better that they are posted in their own native places. Their work is closely associated with the inhabitants of the place and an intimate knowledge of the local conditions would be very useful to them. Therefore, I would suggest that, as far as possible, they may be posted to their native places.

In this connection, I may also speak a word about the pay of these Proverthikars. Yesterday, I was saying that, in the interest of economy, the pay of the Professors might be reduced. But regarding the men in the lower ranks of the service, it is necessary that they should be given at least a living wage and so, I strongly press for the increase of the pay of these low-paid Proverthikars. They are now getting only a very low pay considering the nature and the amount of the work that they have to do. In these circumstances, I would advocate that they should be given better pay. With these remarks, I support the motion.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Sir, I took Mr. Robinson to mean that the Proverthikars are not now directly recruited, that they are appointed only by the promotion of the Accountants and that the Accountants who have been appointed from the unrepresented communities will again, in their turn, become

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[Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.]

Proverthikars. In answer to this it has been suggested 'Why not have direct recruitment?' Personally, I have not got the slightest objection for direct recruitment. But I want to point out that the analogy of Mr. Mammen Mappillai is fallacious. He suggested that lawyers are recruited, directly as Judges, to the prejudice of the men in the service. It has been forgotten by him that lawyers take part, ever since their enrolment, in the administration of justice and, till their recruitment as Judges, they are having good training in their work and are also equipped with up-to-date knowledge of law.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): May I know from Mr. Subba Aiyar what he has to say about direct recruitment under the Indian Civil Service?

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): That is the next question that I am going to take up.

Therefore so far as the direct recruitment from the bar is concerned, the argument is fallacious, because the men who are recruited are being trained in the work of administration of justice and their knowledge of law also is up-to-date.

So far as the I. C. S. men are concerned, there, also my friend has forgotten the principle on which the selection is made. They select the best men by holding open, competitive examinations, because, as Mr. A. K. Pillai suggested, they want to get the maximum benefit for the money that they spend. But here, those who advocate direct recruitment are against the system of holding competitive examinations. They want the men from unrepresented communities to be chosen. Their suggestion is that men from the unrepresented communities should be directly appointed as Proverthikars. As I have pointed out already, young men are recruited to the Indian Civil Service and are placed over senior men, because it has been proved by open competition that they are the best men available. There is no question of communal representation there. But here, those who advocate direct recruitment are against holding competitive examinations. Therefore, there also, I do not think the analogy is correct. My point is that, if you care for communal representation, you must agree that recruitment, according to the principle of communal representation, should be from the very bottom itself. Once they have been recruited, I think they should be subject to the ordinary rules of promotion and should not be given any special privileges.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): I have not much to say by way of reply. Many of the members who spoke from this side of the House were supporting me. Mr. Robinson said at first that direct recruitment to the Proverthikar's *cadre* was not possible because the Accountants have to be promoted as Proverthikars. When he was asked whether if qualified applicants were available, that system could not be resorted to, then he said that the claims of the Accountants would have to be overlooked and

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that that would be a piece of injustice. I am not satisfied with his explanation, and my submission is that Proverthikars should be recruited direct from outside and they might be trained in the manner suggested by Mr. Mammen Mappillai or in some other manner.

Some of my friends were saying that if Proverthikars were recruited from among the Accountants, the members of some communities—the Mahomedans, for instance—can hope to become Proverthikars after eight years. I cannot understand the reasoning contained in that argument. We know, as a matter of fact, that, at present, there are not many Accountants who belong to these unrepresented communities. Therefore, I am not able to see how after a period of eight or ten years, these unrepresented communities would get themselves adequately represented in the Proverthikar's *cadre* if Accountants are not entertained now. As Mr. Robinson has not given any positive assurance that he will give preference to applicants from the unrepresented or the inadequately represented communities, I think I have to press the motion.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I carefully listened to all that the members have said. The Government will consider the question about setting apart a fixed percentage for the direct recruitment of Proverthikars. Therefore, I think the member will be kind enough to withdraw the motion.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*): In the light of the assurance given by Mr. Robinson, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The following motions were not moved:—

Motions 150 to 153.

MR. K. SIVARAMA PANIKKAR:

150. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,600 for Proverthi Cutcherries by Rs. 100.

MR. KALLUR NARAYANA PILLAI:

151. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,600 for Proverthi Cutcherries by Rs. 100.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI:

152. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,93,600 for Proverthi Cutcherries by Rs. 100.

I E. LAND REVENUE—*Kandukrishi Cutcherries and Nelpuras.*

2. Kandukrishi Nelpuras.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

153. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,600 for Vicharippukars by Rs. 10.

Motion 154.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

154. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 29,740 for Kandukrishi Cutcherries and Nelpuras by Re. 1.

In this connection, I wish to press upon the Government the desirability of abolishing one or two Kandukrishi Nelpuras. In the course of the general discussion on the budget, I had occasion to point out that on account of the payment of Kandukrishi *pattam*, in kind, the Kandukrishi

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[Mr. K. K. Thomas.]

tenants were put to a lot of difficulty. Last year, in this Council, the Government had been pleased to give some sort of assurance that something definite will be done. We have been expecting with anxious hopes to see the result of that assurance; but, though one year has passed, no tangible result has yet come out of it. Though a deputation waited upon the Ag. Dewan and though they were given very considerate treatment, the matter has not moved an inch further. This question has been moved ever since the late Dewan Mr. V. P. Madhava Row abolished taxation in kind. But for the timely measure, on account of the general rise in prices and on account of the economic conditions over which the ryots have absolutely no control, it would have been very difficult to pay the ordinary tax on land, and the Government would have been put to the necessity of doing something for the reduction of tax on paddy lands. As it is, the present system is not wanted by either side. It is not to the advantage of the Government or to the ryots. Formerly, there was some sort of additional charge of 5 per cent. to compensate the shortage due to re-measurement of paddy. This was abolished, with the result that instead of 5 per cent. the Kandukrishi Vicharippukars collect 7 per cent. more than what was necessary. The total *pattam* from Kandukrishi lands comes to 3,18,000 *paras* and the excess amount collected every year goes over 21,000 *paras*.

The Government are not utilising the whole of the paddy for the purpose of pensions and for Palace purposes. But the balance after meeting the expenses is auctioned. In the case of auctions also, the Government are losing about one or two chackrams per *para*. In addition to this, the rent of the granaries comes to about Rs. 8,000 per year. Considering all these, I request that the Government may be pleased to take some definite steps so that the system may be abolished in consideration of the indignity and inconvenience caused to the tenants, some of whom are highly respectable people. Some of these people have to wait upon the Vicharippukar and take the paddy in bag-loads to the *Nelpuras*. This is a serious matter which has to be considered by the Government. What I press for now is that the commutation rate should be fixed at the market price prevailing in Medam for the Punja paddy. If this is conceded, I suppose it will be a great advantage to the tenant who is now suffering a lot of difficulties.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, the matter is now under correspondence and I hope it will soon be disposed of. We are trying our best to expedite it.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I should like to know whether the Land Revenue Commissioner has any objection to the course suggested by me regarding the commutation of paddy at the current market price.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The question is under correspondence and I cannot say

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anything definite at present. All that I can say is that the matter will be considered. I cannot give a definite answer now.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Though I have heard from Mr. Robinson that the matter is engaging the attention of the Government, I should like to know the sense of the House. So, I request the President to ascertain the wishes of the members of this House.

PRESIDENT: I am told that the question of effecting a change has already advanced in the consideration of the Government. And the Government in communication with their officers are exploring avenues in the hope of discovering a means to effect the change.

MR. K. K. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): In the light of the information supplied, I beg to withdraw the motion.

PRESIDENT: Does the House permit Mr. Thomas to withdraw the motion?

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

I G. REVENUE SURVEY.

Motions 155 and 156.

The following motions were deemed not to have been moved as the members were absent:—

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI:

155. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 33,446 for establishment by Rs. 100.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI:

156. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 55,460 for Revenue Survey by Rs. 100.

Motion 157.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): I beg to make the following motion:—

157. "To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III by Rs. 5".

Sir, my object in asking for this reduction is to bring home to the Government the necessity of very seriously considering the question of appointments in the Land Revenue Department. As the appointment of officers in this department have been separately discussed in the general discussion and as the general principles have also come up for discussion, I do not propose to take much time. My motion is a general one. Only the question of the Tahsildars and the officers of the Pakuthi Cutcherry were discussed. But I believe the same principle holds good as well in the appointment of other officers in the Land Revenue Department. More than four years have elapsed since the separation of the Devaswoms from the Revenue Department.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR (*Nominated*) (*Deputy President*): Has the member any grievance with regard to the appointment of the Peishkars and the Land Revenue Commissioner because we have discussed the question of the Tahsildars and the Proverthikars? (*Laughter*).

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MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): I have no grievance about the Land Revenue Commissioner because he is only one simple individual. The department consists not only of Peishkars and the Land Revenue Commissioner, but the clerks in the Land Revenue Commissioner's office and the Peishkars' offices.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I know whether it does not include peons also?

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): It does and I am very emphatic on that point. As the members have more or less discussed the question, I do not wish to take much time upon the motion. I would only point out that my motion is for the serious consideration of appointments in general in the Revenue Department. I think more than four years have elapsed since the separation of the Devaswoms from the Land Revenue Department and as yet no Peishkar from the Ezhava community has been appointed. I am very thankful to the Government for their having appointed a Christian as Peishkar. But I may point out that the Ezhavas form a very large section of the people of Travancore and they have been urging on the attention of the Government the appointment of a Peishkar from among their own community. Similarly, I would bring to the attention of the Government that Assistant Peishkars also have not been appointed from among the Ezhavas or the Mahomedans. So, what I would bring to the attention of the Government is that these matters must be very seriously considered and I hope the Government will be pleased to take more serious steps for the appointment of Peishkars, Assistant Peishkars and other officers from the un-represented communities.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I should like to know, in the first place, from the Land Revenue Commissioner whether any action has been taken in the case of officers who even according to the admission of the Government have violated the rule in regard to filling up of vacancies. It is admitted in the answers to questions, supplying tabular statements of new appointments, that certain officers have openly flouted or violated the explicit orders of the Government that, in case of vacancies when there are applicants from various communities, the applicants from the under-represented communities should be given preference. It is admitted that certain officers have violated persistently that order of the Government.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): What was the reply given by the Government?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I think they said that the officers concerned have not explained why they have not appointed members from the under-represented communities when there were applicants from those communities. That is put down as appendix to the questions and answers.

PRESIDENT: Are you referring, Mr. Robinson, to the particular answer?

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): During the last session it was I think that this reply was given.

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not remember exactly what the Government have said.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): It is an elaborate statement embodying the replies of all the heads of departments and containing tabular statements. I think it is too important a document to be easily forgotten.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think there was any such word used by the Government as "flouting". I remember that, during the last Council, Mr. Mammen Mappillai said something about the question of appointments, and I think the Government said that they had called for an explanation and were taking action. I do not remember that the Government used any such word as "flouting".

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, North*): I do not say that the Government used the word "flouting". I only suggest that it tantamounted to that.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I cannot say what action the Government have taken. I think they are taking action. But I agree with the principle which Mr. T. J. Matthew advocates and about which I have already replied, that the Land Revenue Department should be open to everybody and that recruitment should be made from all communities. So far as we are concerned, we are trying to do that. I do not know whether Mr. Matthew refers to my office. I think my office is fairly represented. Probably, if Mr. Matthew likes, I can give him figures. All that I can say is that the principle suggested is being kept in view and will be acted upon.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): ഞാൻ മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. ജെ. മാത്യുവിന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. പകൃതിക്കുച്ചേരികളെ സ്പർശിക്കുന്ന സംഗതികളിൽ മിക്കതും ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞുകഴിഞ്ഞു. റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനെ മൊത്തത്തിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്നതും ജനസാമാന്യത്തെ സാരമായി ബാധിക്കുന്നതുമായ പല കാര്യങ്ങളിലും ഗവർണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിയേണ്ടതാണ്. റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലെപ്പോലെ കേസിന് ഒരു തീർച്ചയില്ലാതെ കുഴഞ്ഞുംകൊണ്ട് കീഴ്മേലായി വരുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം മറ്റു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളിൽ അധികം കാണുകയില്ലാ. പുറമ്പോക്കുകേസ്, പുറമ്പോക്കുകേസ്, ലേലം, ഇവ മിക്കതും താഴെനിന്ന് മുകളിലോട്ടും അവിടെനിന്നു കീഴ്പ്പോട്ടും പലതവണ യാത്ര ചെയ്യുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണ്. ഇതിന്റെ തകത്ത് പല രഹസ്യങ്ങളും കണ്ടേക്കും. ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തു ലേലം നടത്തിയാൽ ആ പകൃതിയിലെ രീതി അനുസരിച്ച് പോകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു മാസംകൊണ്ടോ ഒന്നരമാസംകൊണ്ടോ അത് അവസാനിച്ചേക്കും. അടവ് ഒന്ന് തെറ്റിയാണെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടും മൂന്നുംകൊല്ലം കഴിഞ്ഞാലും കേസ് അവസാനിയ്ക്കയില്ലായിരിക്കും.

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[Mr. Tariatu Kunjitomman.]

ഒരു സമയത്തു് ലേലം നടത്തിയിട്ടു് അവരുടെ രീതി അനുസരിച്ചു് പോയില്ലാ എങ്കിൽ രണ്ടാമതു ലേലവും പലകുഴപ്പങ്ങളും ഒക്കെ നടക്കും. ഇതു ഉഠംനാട്ടിലെ ആളുകളെ പരക്കെ ബാധിക്കുന്നതും ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിന്റെ നല്ല ഭരണത്തെ കളങ്കപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതുമായ സംഗതിയാകയാൽ അതിനെ പ്പറ്റി രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയാതെയിരിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാ. ക്രമപ്രകാരമുള്ള നമ്പർ അനുസരിച്ചു കേസുകൾ തീർക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ തരക്കേടില്ലായിരുന്നു. തഹശീൽദാർക്കും പേഷ്കാർക്കും ധാരാളമായ ജോലികൾ ഉണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെതന്നെ കമ്മീഷണർക്കും. പുതുവൽ ജോലികൾ നടത്തുന്നതു പലപ്പോഴും പുതുവൽ ക്ലാർക്കു്, പുറമ്പോക്കു ക്ലാർക്കു് ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ക്ലാർക്കന്മാർ ആയിരിക്കാനെടയുള്ളു. അവിടെ കിടന്നാണു കറങ്ങുകയും കുഴങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഇതിലും വളരെ സങ്കടം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു റവന്യൂ വകുപ്പിൽ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ഇല്ലാത്ത വർഗ്ഗത്തിനാണെന്നു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാ. സാധാരണ പുറമ്പോക്കു കേസുകളിലും പുതുവൽ കേസുകളിലും പല വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവരും കക്ഷികളായിട്ടു് ഇടപെടേണ്ടിവരും. എങ്ങിനെനോക്കിയാലും അനുഭവംകൊണ്ടു് പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ഇല്ലാത്തവർക്കാണു് അധികം സങ്കടമുള്ളതു്. കമ്മീഷണർ, പേഷ്കാർ, തഹശീൽദാർ ഇവർ ഈ വിധം മനഃപൂർവമായി അറിഞ്ഞുംകൊണ്ടു് അഴിമതി ചെയ്യുവാൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ലാ. ചിലർ അനുവദിക്കയും ചെയ്യുമായിരിക്കാം. എങ്കിലും മിക്കവാറും അവർ അറിയാതെയാണു ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സംഗതികൾ നടക്കുന്നതു് പുറമ്പോക്കു ലേലം, പുതുവൽ ഈ ഇനങ്ങളിലുള്ള അനേകം കേസുകൾ തഹശീൽദാർക്കു നേരിട്ടു നോക്കിതീർക്കാൻ പ്രയാസമായിരിക്കാം. ഡിവിഷനിലും അങ്ങിനെതന്നെ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ലാ. അതാതിനുള്ള ക്ലാർക്കുകൾ കടലാസുകളും കൊണ്ടുവരുമ്പോൾ അതിൽ ഒപ്പിടാനെ ചിലപ്പോൾ സാധിക്കയുള്ളു. ക്ലാർക്കുകൾ വിചാരിച്ചാൽ പല വിധത്തിലുള്ള സങ്കടങ്ങളും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വരുത്തുവാൻ കഴിയും. അങ്ങിനെ നടന്നുംവരുന്നു. അതിനാൽ താലൂക്കുകളിലെയും ഡിവിഷനുകളിലേയും ക്ലാർക്കുകളെ രണ്ടു കൊല്ലം കഴിയുമ്പോഴെങ്കിലും സ്ഥലം മാറ്റിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ ജനസങ്കടത്തിനു കുറവു വരുന്നതാണു്. പരാതി ഉണ്ടായാൽ തഹശീൽദാരും പേഷ്കാരും അതിനെ നിഷ്കർഷയായി ഗൌനിക്കയും അവരോടു പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു സമാധാനം വാങ്ങുകയുംവേണം. കീഴിലുള്ളവരുടെപേരിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു പരാതി ഉണ്ടാ

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യാൽ മിക്കവാറും അതു മേലധികാരിയുടെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽപ്പെടാതെയാണ് പോകുന്നതു്. ഇക്കാര്യം ഇതു വിസ്തരിച്ചു പറയുന്നതു് ഇവിടെ എന്നെ എന്നല്ല മറ്റുള്ളവരേയും തിരിഞ്ഞെടുത്തയച്ച ജനസാമാന്യത്തേയും ജനപ്രതിനിധികളെത്തന്നേയും സാരമായി ബാധിക്കുന്ന സംഗതിയാകയാലാണ്. കൃഷിയാണല്ലൊ ജനങ്ങളുടെ തൊഴിൽ. ജനങ്ങളുടെ വിയപ്പു് പൊഴിച്ചുണ്ടാക്കുന്ന പണത്തിന്റെ ഒരു വലിയ പങ്കു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാക്ക് കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു്. പുതുവൽ പതിവിലുംമറും വളരെ അഴിമതി നടക്കുന്നു. ദേഹണ്ഡക്കാരനുതന്നെ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണു് വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. പക്ഷേ അനുഭവത്തിലെല്ലാം അങ്ങിനെയാണെന്നു പറയാൻപാടില്ല. സാധുക്കൾക്കു് തരിശുഭൂമികൾ കിട്ടണമെങ്കിൽ അവയുടെ വിലയെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ ചിലവു വന്നേക്കും. ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ കമ്മീഷണർ അവർകൾ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. കീഴിലുള്ളവരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം അധികാരമില്ലാ. പേഷ്കാരുടേയും തഹശീൽദാരുടേയും ചുമതലയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടകാര്യമാണു് കീഴുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഇങ്ങിനെയാണു കമ്മീഷണർ പറയുന്നതു്. പേഷ്കാരുടേയും തഹശീൽദാരുടേയും പ്രത്യേക ചുമതലയാണെങ്കിലും അതിൽ കമ്മീഷണക്കു പരമാധികാരം നൽകിയാൽ അദ്ദേഹം ജനസങ്കടം പരിഹരിക്കുമായിരിക്കും. പേഷ്കാരന്മാരേയും തഹശീൽദാരന്മാരേയും ശാസിക്കാനുള്ള അധികാരം കുറെക്കൂടുതലായി കമ്മീഷണക്കു നൽകിയാൽ അധികം നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നുകൂടി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

(The President left the Hall and the Deputy President took the Chair at 4-16 P. M.)

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): On the general question of communal representation in the Revenue Department, though the subject has been almost threshed out before, I shall just draw the attention of the House to two points. It has been observed that this scramble for the proportionate representation of the communities in the service of the State can be looked upon only as scramble for the loaves and fishes of public service. But I shall draw the attention of the House to another aspect of the question. Much has been said here about the relationship between communal representation and efficiency. I have to point out that, without proper communal representation, it is not possible to get the best from the people of the country in the service of the State. Here, I must qualify my statement by the observation that the qualifications of those who seek appointments should not be left out of consideration. Provided we get efficient men for the service, it will be observed that, if the various communities of a State are taken into the service of the State, we do something whereby efficiency is only enhanced. All the

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[Mr. C. P. Thomas.]

important communities in the State have got some traditions. They have been passing through various generations wherein certain talents and capacities have been cultivated and developed in them. Now, when we admit that each important community in the State has got some contribution to make to the public service of the State owing to the capacities and talents they have been acquiring during the generations of their existence in the State with their particular traditions, we will see how important it is that the contribution to be given by any particular community ought not to be lost to the public service.

Another way in which this communal representation will help efficiency is this. If we allow any particular service in the State, from the higher to the lower ranks, to be in the hands of a particular community, there is a certain lack of mutual checking on the vagaries or tendencies to partiality and to any unfairness on the part of the officials. On the other hand, if there is a fair distribution of officers belonging to the several communities in the State in the various ranks of the service, there will be a checking of the temptations towards abuse of powers by officials.

In these two ways, apart from any question of profit or privilege to be gained by the members of the community who get into public service, there is this consideration of enhancing the efficiency of the service. I think that it is only right that the Government should consider these aspects of the question also when they deal with the question of communal representation. Not only the Government, but also the non-official members who discuss this question, have to bear these aspects in mind.

Now, passing on to the question of the higher appointments in the Revenue Department, referred to by Mr. Matthew, I wish to add this suggestion, namely, the desirability of having recourse to direct recruitment even to the ranks of Tahsildars. On another occasion I had—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think that is irrelevant. We have sufficiently discussed about Tahsildars. That is a specific motion that has already been discussed and I rule that as out of order.

MR C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): There has been objections raised on the ground of injustice being done to those who are in service by such recruitments.

Now, I wish to make one observation about the disability of the unrepresented communities as far as promotions in the department are concerned. There is the Devaswom Department which is separated from the Revenue Department. The Devaswom Department is closed to all except the *savarna* classes, but in the matter of promotions; the members who are in the Devaswom Department have their claims taken into consideration for promotions in the Revenue Department also. Now, it can easily be seen how this acts as an additional disadvantage to the unrepresented communities as far as promotions in the Revenue Department are concerned. With these remarks, I support the motion of Mr. T. J. Matthew.

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MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : I have not many words to add. But I should again repeat that the selection of different men from the different communities would really constitute efficiency because Travancore is peopled by several historically different communities. It is essential that the Government must be conducted with the co-operation of all the different communities and, unless all the different communities take part in the Government, it cannot be said that it is the Government with the co-operation of the people. I would call that Government efficient which is popular and which is assisted and helped by all the communities in the State. I would call the Government by a section of the people, an oligarchy a Government that is not safe, because it has not the support of the people.

As regards the question now under consideration, no doubt, Mr. Robinson has stated that he would seriously consider, and that the Government are seriously considering, the question of appointing more persons from unrepresented communities to the Revenue Department. But I would further urge and state that the attention so far paid by the Government is altogether inadequate, and if that is the sort of attention they are going to pay to it, my submission is that it is a step-motherly treatment that is offered to the unrepresented communities. Unless that attitude of the Government is changed, there is no salvation for these communities. After emphasising once more this point, I withdraw my motion.

MR. A. J. JOHN (*Vaikam*) : May I know whether the member is aware of any instance of any of the officers disobeying the orders of Government regarding appointments ?

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : I have not come across any instance of the kind.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 158.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : I move the following motion :

158. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III—Land Revenue by Rs. 5.

My object in moving this motion is to call the attention of Government and to urge upon the Government the revision of the Waste Lands Rules, particularly Rule 6 of the Rules published in the *Government Gazette* dated 8th March 1923. Rule 6 of the Rules reads as follows :—

"On receipt of an application under Rule 2, the Peishkar or the Commissioner of the Division shall ascertain whether the lot applied for is available for sale. He should also enquire into the antecedents and financial position of the applicant and satisfy himself that the application is *bona fide*, that it comes from a person competent and that it is not made for purposes of speculation. He should then forward the application along with his views thereon to the Land Revenue Commissioner. His report should clearly state the result of his enquiry on the points mentioned in this Rule."

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[Mr. T. J. Matthew.]

The point I wish to bring to the notice of the Government is with regard to the provision that requires the Peishkar or the Commissioner of Devicolam to conduct an enquiry as regards the antecedents of the applicant, the financial position of the applicant and his competence. First of all, these requirements are very vague. What do the Government mean by saying that the antecedents of the applicant have to be enquired into and reported on? Is it with regard to his character or is it with regard to his nationality? We do not know. Then again, as regards the financial position of the applicant, what has that to do with the registry of lands in his name? If it is really to ascertain whether the man really intends to occupy the land and cultivate it, there is another Rule which requires that before the application can be considered, he has to deposit in cash as security an amount to be determined by the Government for the purpose of demarcation and survey.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is only for demarcation and survey.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Yes. What I say is, in the case of a man who makes a deposit with the application, whether it be for the purpose of demarcation and survey or not, he may be presumed to be making the application in good faith and not simply wasting the time of the Government. Another purpose sought to be served by that provision is, I believe, to prevent the applicant from selling the land again. If that is the case, so far as my experience goes as regards the registries under the Waste Lands Rules, in case the application is by an individual, he very soon after sells the land sold to him by the Government to some company formed by him and of which he is one of the Directors. That is what happens and that is what has taken place in regard to these tea cultivation lands. But if such transfers are allowed and if the Government have nothing to say to such transfers, I do not understand why they should restrict other forms of transfers of lands registered under these Rules. I cannot also see that there is any principle in putting a restriction upon the alienation of lands. The Government sell these lands for the purpose of cultivation. The applicant either cultivates it himself or assigns his right in favour of those who do it. Whether it is done by the very applicant or by his assignees, I submit there is no difference and the Government need not be concerned with that. I cannot also understand why the person who puts in an application for registry of lands should be a very rich man. On the contrary, I would have that the Government should desire that more lands must be registered in the names of persons who are poor and not help the locking up of land in the hands of a few capitalists. I therefore urge that Rule 6 which requires that the person who applies for lands under the Waste Lands Rules should be a person of competence, must be a person of solid financial position and so on, should be removed as it contains unnecessary requirements. Again, these provisions give a very great freedom to the officers, particularly the Tahsildar and the Proverthikar on whom the duties of conducting the enquiry rest. As the provisions are very vague and as much is left to the opinion of the person making the

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enquiry, it is very easy to send in the report saying that the applicant is not a person of competence. Therefore, there is the likelihood of much irregularity on the part of the Proverthikar who makes the enquiry. No doubt, it is the Dewan Peishkar who is asked to conduct an enquiry. But we know that he makes the report generally on the reports submitted by his subordinates. This rule therefore is in practice fraught with many difficulties for *bona fide* applicants and I therefore urge that this section be deleted and the rule be modified in the light of that deletion.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Sir, I had better explain at once how this rule came to be framed. During the inspection of the Peermade taluk by the Dewan, several cases came to his notice in which applications for large extents of land under the Waste Lands Rules for coffee or tea cultivation have been made by men of no worth and some of them have been sanctioned. Most of the men happened to be Government servants or their close relations. With a view to discourage speculation the Government ordered, that the antecedents and financial position of all applicants for lands under the Revised Waste Lands Rules should be enquired into and clearly mentioned in the reports to the Government on each application. In pursuance of this order, the concerned rules were amended by notifications issued on the 19th June 1921. It was afterwards found that reports received from the Devicolam Commissioner on applications under the Waste Lands Rules simply stated that the applications are not *bona fide* and that they were intended for purposes of speculation or that they are *bona fide* and are not speculation. As these bare statements are not sufficient, Government have issued orders that the grounds on which the Commissioner comes to the conclusion in each case should be specified in his reports.

Rule 6 of the Revised Waste Lands Rules lays down that on receipt of an application, the Peishkar or Commissioner of the Division shall ascertain whether the area applied for is available for sale. He is also to enquire into the antecedents and financial position of the applicant and satisfy himself that the application is *bona fide* and that it comes from a person of competence and that it is not made for speculation. To me, it appears that the above is a wise provision. If the Division Peishkar finds in his preliminary enquiry that the applicant is not competent and that the application savours of speculation, there is no use in pursuing the matter any further. I do not think that this preliminary enquiry will take much time or cause any real hardship. I therefore oppose the motion.

I think that the fear in some quarters is that *bona fide* applications for registry of lands are being or will be rejected under the provisions of Rule 6 and that the officers may abuse the power given them by the rule. I may assure the House that this will not be the case. Even if the Tahsildar or the Commissioner, Devicolam, goes wrong in the enquiry conducted by them under this rule, the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner and the Government take adequate steps to safeguard

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[Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.]

the interests of the applicants. The House must allow that the intention of the Government in granting lands on registry without auction should be that it should be brought under cultivation. There is no meaning in saying that lands should be granted to the first applicant whether he be insolvent or unfit to undertake the cultivation contemplated. Whatever be the care taken by the Government or the officers in the matter, it is found difficult to put a stop to profiteering tendency that is seen in the *pattadars* in the High Ranges. But to say that it should be encouraged by the Government by deleting Rule 6 cannot, I think, be appreciated. In these circumstances, I believe Mr. Matthew will not press the motion for revising Rule 6 of the Waste Lands Rules.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): I am not convinced of the argument of the Land Revenue Commissioner that the financial position of the applicant must be good. Another argument was that this provision is put in to prevent the Government officers from registering lands in the names of their relations or friends. Suppose these Government officers put in applications in the names of their friends or relations. Rule 6 does not prevent the mischief. Mr. Robinson assumes that all such *binamidars* would be poor men. I think Government officers who would purchase from Government such big areas as 500 acres and more would have rich and influential friends. It is not very difficult for them to make such men put in applications. I am more inclined to think that this provision is put in rather to stifle applications from *bona fide* applicants for registry of waste lands. As Mr. Robinson has said any complaint in that direction would be attended to by him, and for other reasons, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motions 159 to 161.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. A. J. JOHN :

159. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III by Rs. 5

MR. G. RAMAN MENON :

160. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III by Rs. 10.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED :

161. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III by Rs. 100.

Motion 162.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion :—

162. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III by Rs. 100.

My object is to draw the attention of the Government to a few points connected with the work of revenue officers. I would like to suggest about the *Pokkuvaravu* activities. Now the question of *Pokkuvaravu* records has assumed a very great importance ever since the introduction of the Electoral Rules which regulate the election of members of this Council. As has been observed, this is a work that depends

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ultimately upon the Proverthikar or Pakuthi officers. The preparation of the voters' lists is based upon the *Thandapper* kept in the Proverthi Cutcherries. Although one may be in possession of a land and may be paying taxes, unless his name is included in the *Thandapper*, he cannot be a voter. In the preparation of these lists a lot of injustice is being perpetrated and this consciousness of the unfair treatment received by members of several communities in the State has been one of the potent causes of active disaffection in certain parts of Travancore. Now my request is that a special effort must be made by the higher officers of the Revenue Department to have the work in connection with this branch expedited as much as possible, so that, at least by the time of the next election, our voters' lists may be of such a character as to satisfy all concerned. Ordinary directions or orders issued by the head of the department are not likely to receive that attention which is due to this important subject. So, what I would submit is, in view of the seriousness of this question, which has affected the peace and good will among the various communities in the land, special effort should be made to see that this work is done as soon as possible and as perfectly as possible. I would next speak a few words about the work of the District officers, and I may also include in that category Tahsildars, while they are on circuit. I remember a time in the administration of the State when the District officers were asked to make a point of meeting the leading men of the place they visit and confer with them on matters of local interest affecting the general welfare of the people and to show the results of such conferences in their annual reports. I regret to see that, although such directions were given to the officers by the Government and although more than once the Government had to express their regret, that this direction was not carried out, the Government gave up the idea. I would call their attention to the desirability of requiring their officers to begin again this work when they visit places in the course of their official circuits. We know that the means whereby the Government come into touch with the people are the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council. Now once a year the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly make certain representations to Government, and in this Council during the general budget discussion as well as by resolutions on matters of such a character as can be brought up. But considering the limitations of time and other conditions which regulate the opportunities of making such representations, I beg to submit that such opportunities are not as frequent as desirable. On the other hand, many questions that would have been discussed with better effect with District officers in each locality are obliged to be brought in for discussion first-hand in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and in the Legislative Council. If these District officers make a point of coming into contact with the leading men in their periodical tours, I am sure a good deal of the needs and the wishes of the people with regard to various points affecting their welfare can be found out and they can be incorporated in reports that are sent up to the Government whereby Government may be in a position more fully to ascertain the desires and aspirations of the people. With these remarks, I would make the motion;

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Mr. Thomas has dealt with two points in his speech. The first is that he wants the *Pokkuvaravu* work pushed on and the second point is about District officers coming more in contact with the people during their tours. As regards the number of *Pokkuvaravu* cases, the work has increased very much and it will increase to a large extent when as a result of the Nair Regulation the Nair*tarwards* begin to be split up. From the returns we get, we find that the officers are making extraordinary efforts towards it. In taluks in which I went to inspect, I found there are no cases pending. There were 11,676 cases pending at the end of last year, 59,854 cases were received till the end of Makaram this year, making a total of 71,530 cases. Something like 54,963 cases have been disposed of up to the end of Medam, leaving only about 16,567 cases.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know the number of applications rejected?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not got that information here, I am sorry.

I know the officers are trying to do what they can without much pressure being brought to bear from my office. As to the number of applications for *Pokkuvaravu* to be disposed of, I do not think Mr. Thomas need be afraid that I will neglect that question.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know whether the number of disposals has increased by the number of rejections? If the number of rejections has increased, the number of disposals will always increase.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is an appeal.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think an officer will dare do that, because there is an appeal. Then, as regards the second point, that is, the orders which Mr. Thomas referred to were issued at the time of Dewan Mr. Sankara-subba Aiyar and they were to the effect that District officers should try to get in touch with the leading people of the place and make notes in their diaries about it.

MR. C. P. TARAKAN (*Kunnatnad*): May I know whether information is given to a party when his application for *Pokkuvaravu* is rejected?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think we are going beyond the scope of the motion we are now dealing with.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): This is being done by the Dewan Peishkars and the Tahsildars. They do make mention of these in their diaries.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Has the Commissioner any objection to the public knowing the official results of such conferences?

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I will make myself clear. The Dewan Peishkar, while making an inspection of a market, will meet the leading men there, the Legislative Council member, the S. M. P. A. member or a leading vakil,

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When a certain matter is brought before him, he will discuss it with them, and will tell them what that action is taken on it, and so on. He notes all those facts in his diary. These orders were issued by Dewan Mr. Krishnan Nair and are still being carried out. All these diaries come to me and I send them to the Government.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I ask Mr. Robinson whether it is not advantageous to the public to know as much as possible with regard to these points? Have the Government any objection in publishing them? In that way, the people will be able to know the nature and the amount of work done by these District officers and the result of their work.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I do not think it is of any use to make statements in the administration reports that the District officers met such and such persons and such and such notes were recorded.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): It need not necessarily be in a tabular form. It is enough if they give the results of their work.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I will make a note about that.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): I wish Mr. Robinson would answer Mr. Tarakan's question, namely, whether information is given to a party when an application for including his name in the *Thandapper* Register is rejected.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I will make enquiries about that. I think Mr. Tarakan might write to me demi-officially if it is not being given in any particular instance.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): In the light of the explanation of Mr. Robinson, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question before the House is that a sum not exceeding Rs. 8·24 lakhs under Demand III—Land Revenue—be granted.

The motion was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND IV—TAXES ON INCOME—Rs. '14 LAKH.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. '14 lakh under Demand IV—Taxes on Income.

2. TAXES ON INCOME.

Motions 163 to 165.

The following motions were deemed not to have been made as the members were absent:—

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:

163. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,188 for establishment by Rs. 240.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI:

164. To omit the allotment of Rs. 100 for Law charges.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON:

165. To omit the allotment of Rs. 100 for Law charges.

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